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THE TIMES

40P

No. 65,637

SATURDAY JULY 20 1996

LET THE GAMES BEGIN
EVERY DAY- THE TOP WRITERS,
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TODAY
LUCY AND THE GIANT PEACH
Roald Dahl's fairytale bequest to his daughter
MAGAZINE

NORMAN LAMONT

'Major's peace process is dead'
PAGE 20

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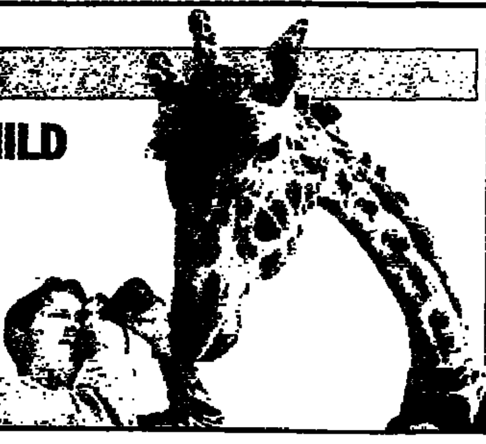

MONDAY
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Rapist kills girl on school trip

Caroline Dickinson: was sleeping in youth hostel room with four other girls

By Bill Frost, Susan Bell, Joanna Bale and Stephen Farrell

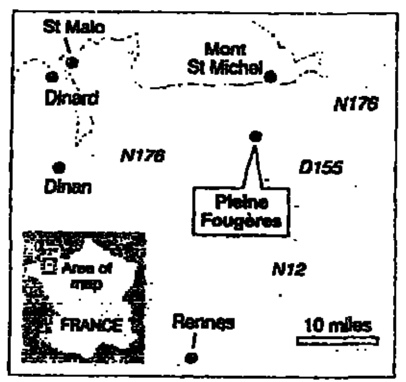
FRENCH police were last night hunting the killer of a 13-year-old English girl who was raped and suffocated while on a school trip to Brittany.

Caroline Dickinson, a second-year pupil at Launceston College in Cornwall, was killed as four girls slept in the room beside her in the Pleine Fougères youth hostel, 30 miles east of St Malo.

One of the four told police that she thought she heard the sound of Caroline's heels "drumming on the floor" in the small hours of Thursday morning, but assumed that the girl was having a nightmare.

Caroline had gone to sleep on a mattress on the floor between the two bunk beds occupied by her companions and her pyjama-clad body was found on the mattress at 8am the next day.

Last night the other children — 34 girls and five boys aged between 12 and 17 — were confined to the building and being interviewed individually by police. Officers were also planning to conduct DNA tests on everyone staying at the hostel. Besides the party from Launceston College, another ten students were believed to be on the premises and they, too, were being questioned.



The school party, which arrived at Pleine Fougères last Sunday, was due home yesterday but will now return when the inquiries allow. The children were accompanied by five teachers, and a further three travelled out with Caroline's parents, who were were said to be "near collapse" after seeing her at a morgue in Rennes.

Ian Wroath, the school's headmaster, said his pupils were absolutely devastated by what had happened. He described Caroline as "a quiet gentle girl — a credit to the college."

One possibility being investigated is that she was killed by a prowler — one girl was said to have reported footsteps in the gravel outside the hostel at 4am. But Christian Couet, the mayor, said there was a night porter at the hostel and there was no evidence of a break-in.

"There has never been any problem there in the past. I went past there on the night she died and everything seemed to be as quiet as ever, M Couet said. "However the building is not locked up at night — it is like a hotel where people come and go."

Caroline's body was found when her room-mates woke. Ronald Frankel, the British consul in Brittany, said: "One of the girls touched her in her bed and she was cold. There was also some discoloration." The girl immediately told her friends and fetched a teacher, who summoned police, ambulance crews and a doctor, but all attempts at resuscitation failed.

Caroline lived with her mother, Susan, a mile from the school. Her father, John, lives near by. Last night Mr Wroath said: "They are devastated. This is a terrible tragedy as anyone can imagine."

The headmaster added that parents of other children had wept when told of the tragedy at a special meeting on Thursday evening, although the other children on the trip had been coping admirably. He praised the teachers on the trip, describing them as "experienced and dedicated professionals", and said counsellors would be available to help pupils, parents and staff. "We will get them home as soon as we can."

Mr Frankel said that the teachers had tried to shield the children from the worst, but many knew the truth. "We, the teachers and the Gendarmes in the incident room took the initial decision not to tell the pupils the girl had died. We thought it would be too much. I expect some of them must have realised the worst this morning when the parents arrived," he said.

The hostel, housed in two buildings, was built in 1984. It provides accommodation for 55 people and is popular with school groups because of its proximity to Mont Saint-Michel.

There are more than 200 youth hostels in France, all of which are responsible for their own security. There is no upper age limit, but children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

No overall rules on security in French youth hostels exist, although most are strict in controlling access. Some provide an overnight caretaker, some are kept locked and the guests are provided with a key, others have an entry-code system.

Town in shock, page 3

Terrorist 'was allowed on TWA 800 at Athens'

From Tom Rhodes in Washington

A KNOWN Arab terrorist was reported yesterday to have boarded TWA Flight 800 in Athens, although he was removed by Greek authorities before the aircraft took off for New York and its subsequent fatal journey to Paris.

The report, renewing concerns about security at the Greek airport, came as American officials investigated suggestions that an Iranian group may have planted a bomb in the Boeing 747 which exploded and plunged into the Atlantic Ocean on Thursday, killing all 230 people on board.

Investigators are still waiting to recover the aircraft's two flight recorders from the waters near Long Island, but federal agencies said that a bomb was the most likely cause of the accident.

Reports received by the State Department said that a terrorist was mistakenly allowed on to the aircraft at Athens. "This is our only evidence of a breach in Greek security for boarding the plane," a department official said. "We assume that the report is true and that his luggage was taken off the plane with him, but we are taking this seriously." However, a senior security officer at the airport denied all knowledge of such an incident.

Earlier this year, Washington placed Athens airport beside Lagos and Bogotá on the highest risk category for passenger security and Americans have been warned against flying there.

The State Department official also said that a reliable informant had contacted the American embassy in Rome claiming that Flight 800 had been the target of Iranian extremists opposed to American sanctions against Tehran. "He is an Iranian exile who has proved a very serious contact," the official said.

The Clinton Administration made no formal announcement about the cause of the crash and Robert Francis of the National Transportation Safety Board, said: "There is no evidence of a crime yet." Nevertheless, the Boeing 747 is among the safest airliners in the world. The crew included veteran pilots with solid records and the weather was clear. There has been no evidence that the crew sent a Mayday signal.

Experts and federal officials said extreme engine malfunc-

Continued on page 2, col 5

The victims, page 14
Airport security, page 15

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MARK ASPLAND

Jumping for joy: Annika Reeder, a member of the British gymnastic team, dreams of gold as she celebrates the opening last night of the Olympic Games in Atlanta

Ulster peace process dead, says Lamont

THE former Chancellor Norman Lamont today breaks the Tory truce over Northern Ireland by calling on John Major "to recognise that the peace process is dead".

Mr Lamont writes in *The Times* that the Prime Minister should abandon the talks for a "completely new approach".

However, Mr Major is preparing to urge Irish leaders to show greater urgency at cross-party talks.

Process dead, page 20

Hottest show on earth lifts off

From Quentin Letts in Atlanta

WITH the glitter of 1.6 million sequins, 5,000 fireworks and $300 million of cold-steel security, the twenty-sixth Olympic Games were opening last night in sweltering Atlanta.

President Clinton was to declare the Games open after film footage of Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech was projected onto a large, makeshift screen. Four years ago the Barcelona Olympics attracted 13 world leaders, but Mr Clinton was the only head of government this time. Other notables on offer were the Deputy Prime Minister of Croatia, his Canadian counterpart, and Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary. Last night's four-hour ceremony was featuring another great symbol of the Deep South: a fleet of chrome pick-up trucks chugging into the stadium in formation. It was perhaps an unfortunate choice, as pick-ups are traditionally associated with rednecks — good ol' boys whose idea of a grand night out is to dress up in white gowns and hoods and set fire to black churches.

For the athletes of a record 197 countries, the dream for the next fortnight will be of gold, although the thoughts of the Chinese team recently have also drifted to Peking duck and fried rice. Yan Pingquan, Chinese team spokesman, complained about the food at the Olympic village. He said he was doing his best to encourage his athletes to eat, but they simply did not like the hamburgers and Southern-style ribs on offer.

An Irish 1,500-metre runner, Shane Healy, hopes his Games appearance may be seen by his mother Maureen, whom he has not seen since she quit the family home one night in 1972. "I have no idea if she is alive or dead," he said.

Simon Jenkins, page 20
Leading article, page 21
Games previews, pages 46-48
Beach volleyball, Magazine

Duke of York quits Navy for his family

By Emma Wilkins

THE Duke of York is to leave the Royal Navy in 1999 after nearly 20 years' distinguished service, the Ministry of Defence announced yesterday.

The Duke, 36, who reached his decision after discussions with the Queen, will take up his final posting early next year, working behind a desk in Whitehall.

It is understood that he will then play a more central role in the official life of the Royal Family, filling the void created by the departures of the Princess of Wales and his ex-wife Sarah, Duchess of York. The Duke also wants to avoid long absences at sea that would prevent him taking a greater part in the upbringing of his daughters Princess Beatrice, and Princess Eugenie.

At the moment, the Lieutenant Commander Duke is in charge of training Lynx helicopter pilots, and he will continue in that role until October. In his new job, as executive officer at the Directorate of Naval Operations, he will be responsible for choosing helicopter equipment, including weapons, and balancing budgets.

Naval career, page 6

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DALEY THOMPSON:
He wrote Olympic history with two golds. Each one a thriller in 10 chapters.
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THE TIMES ON MONDAY

THE GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

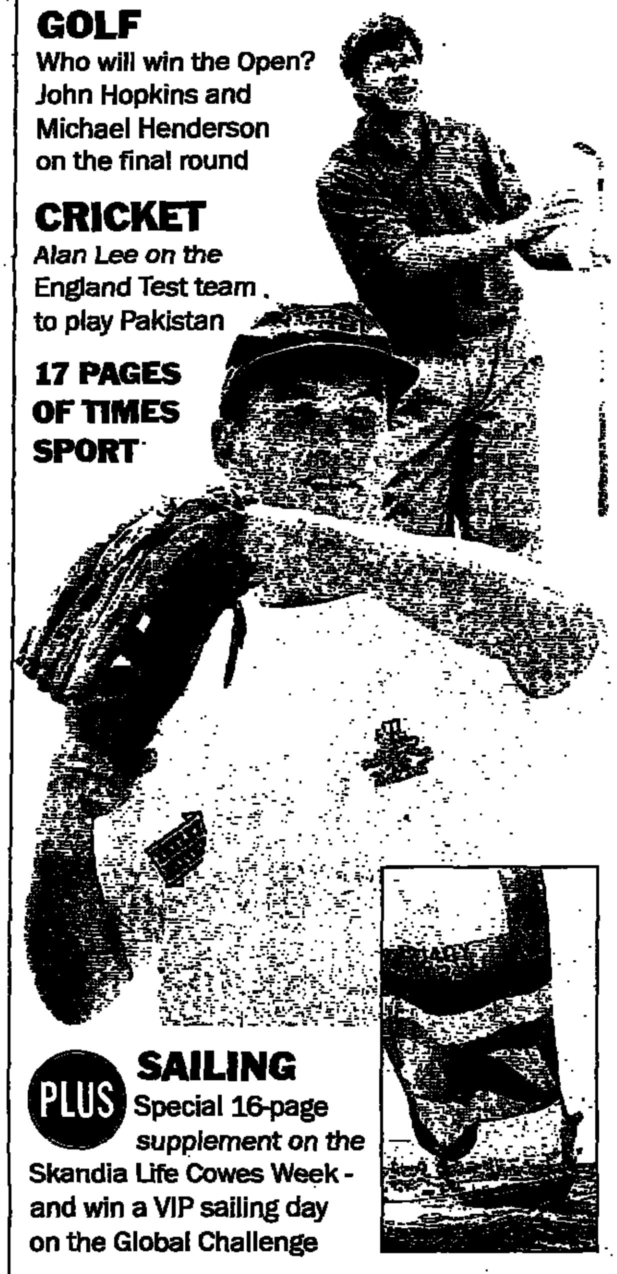
EVERY SUMMER 10P MONDAY

As the Olympic Games begin, David Miller and Simon Barnes head the top reporting team in Atlanta

GOLF
Who will win the Open? John Hopkins and Michael Henderson on the final round

CRICKET
Alan Lee on the England Test team to play Pakistan

17 PAGES OF TIMES SPORT



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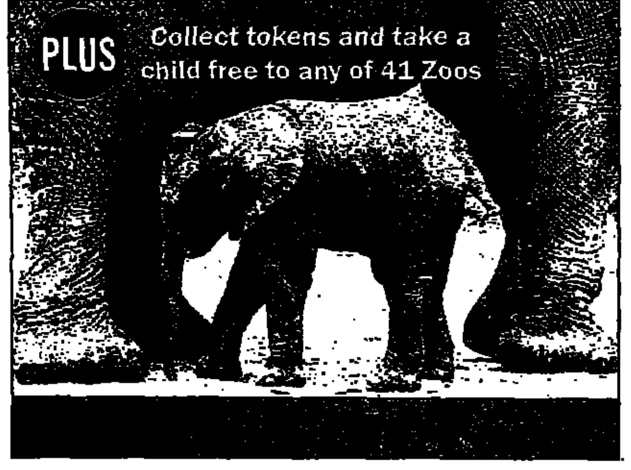

Lang tells postmen: drop strikes or lose monopoly

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

THE Government sharply increased *pressure on the postal union* yesterday by announcing the suspension of the Post Office's letter monopoly from next Friday unless the present wave of strikes are abandoned.

The move, which came as the Post Office and the main postal union held talks at the conciliation service Acas, prompted an angry attack from Labour, which accused the Government *of playing politics with the* dispute to try to move towards privatisation. Ministers are becoming increasingly irritated by the present round of *strikes in the postal* service, the London Underground and locally by firefighters, and are determined to take action where they have the most direct leverage — in the Post Office.

A week ago the Government announced that it was going to consult the Post Office over the suspension of its statutory monopoly on carrying *letters* priced below £1. Yesterday Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, declared the monop*oly would be suspended from July 26* — the day of the next planned strike by the Communication Workers' Union — unless the action is called *off. He gave no indication* that the planned suspension for the monopoly would only be for the duration of the dispute, raising fears in the Post Office and the CWU that the Government will use the industrial action to end the monopoly permanently.

Mr Lang directly connected the Government's move with the dispute, and coupled it with an attack on the *CWU: "The onus is now squarely on* the unions. They can avoid the suspension of the Post Office monop*oly by calling off their threatened* strikes. If they do not, Post Office employees will know that it is their bone-headed union which is responsible for the loss of the monopoly."

Calling on Margaret Beckett, the Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, to condemn the postal strikes, Mr Lang said: "The truth is that Labour is in turmoil over strikes. It's clear that backing consumers by condemning union *militants is still* something that sticks in their craw".

Labour condemned Mr Lang's "in*flammatory*" intervention. Mrs Beckett said it was entirely wrong to make the announcement when the Post Office and union were at Acas trying to solve the dispute. "Ian Lang should stop playing political games."

☐ John Major, touring Devon and Cornwall, accused Labour yesterday of being on a "sponsored silence" after Tony Blair and his shadow ministers failed to condemn outright *the London Underground strike.*

The Labour leader merely said he had already made his position clear *while John Prescott*, the deputy leader, who is sponsored by the rail union RMT, appeared to distance himself from the party's new line.

On Wednesday David Blunkett, the education and empoloyment spokesman, said that the strike was "inappropriate" and that the parties should go to binding arbitration.

Tory memo seals fate of private rail scheme

By Jonathan Prynn, Transport Correspondent

THE Government is to thwart a £3 billion plan for a private freight railway through the *English shires that has an*gered Tory MPs whose constituencies lie along the route.

In a *memorandum* to Tory MPs published yesterday, the Government said it was "not persuaded" to support the proposal, which is due to be debated in the Commons on Wednesday. Although the Government is required to remain neutral while the scheme is being considered, the memorandum has almost certainly sealed its fate.

The move has infuriated the private consortium behind the scheme, Central Railway. A senior source said that it was *considering legal action on the* ground that the Government had broken the terms of the legislation under which the scheme was being brought before Parliament. "When a Conservative Government calls on people to invest in public infrastructure, as we are doing, it is absolutely crazy for them then to say 'by the way, we are going to pull the wheels off the train'," he said.

The proposals are for a 180-mile railway from the Midlands to the Channel Tunnel capable of carrying the equivalent of a million truck loads of freight a year. Central *Railway has claimed that the* railway will bring huge environmental benefits to Britain *and can be built at no cost to* the taxpayer, creating about 5,000 jobs in the process. It has *already secured compensation* deals with hundreds of householders whose property values would be affected.

Labour and the Liberal Democrats have said they oppose the scheme, and Labour MPs with a constituency interest are organising an informal whip on Wednesday.

The timing of the vote, announced in the Commons last week, has made it more *likely that the scheme will be* defeated. It is planned for the end of a 90-minute debate at *about 8pm on Wednesday*, the same day as the Shadow Cabinet elections, ensuring *that most Labour MPs will be* at Westminster. Opponents of the scheme had feared that, so *close to the summer recess*, many MPs would already be on holiday. The memorandum *means that most MPs on the* Government "payroll" will also oppose the railway, although formally it will be a free vote.

The memorandum said: "The project would transfer freight from road to rail, which is consistent with the Government's transport policies . . . *The Government is not*, however, persuaded that the proposals have such substantial merit *as to enable it to* commend the application to Parliament. It has therefore *been decided that its stance on* the scheme is neutral."

Under the 1992 Transport and Works Act the Government is obliged to bring infrastructure projects deemed to be of "national significance" before both Houses. Only when they have been given majority votes in the Commons and the Lords can they proceed to a public inquiry.

James Pawsey, Tory MP for Rugby and Kenilworth, said: "There is no need to spend £3 billion when for £100 to £150 million you could have a better scheme on the West Coast main line with no environmental impact. *I* believe the House of Commons will vote it down on cost *grounds and because it will* cause environmental damage to a great number of people."

Pawsey: warned of environmental damage

Sunbathers were surprised to see Mr Major looking at them over the sea wall

Pledge to end 'quota hopping'

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

*JOHN MAJOR promised yes*terday to get tough with the European Union over foreign *trawlermen registering their* boats in Britain to catch British fish.

At a *meeting* with Cornish fishermen in St Ives, the Prime Minister said that next week the Government would propose amendments to the Treaty of Rome to stop the practice of "quota hopping".

Fishing representatives, while welcoming the announcement, said they doubted Mr Major would be able to *get other member states to* agree to the changes, which are to be tabled for discussion *at the inter-governmental con*ference on the EU's future.

Mr Major met the fisher*men for 45 minutes*. He told them: "What I want is a series of changes to ensure that the common fishing policy works equitably, fairly for the British fishermen and others elsewhere, and that it is a workable system."

Later Tony Baldry, the Fisheries Minister, said the proposed treaty changes would *enable the Government to* insist that a "minimum proportion of the legal and benefi*cial ownership [of vessels* registered in Britain] would have to be people naturally *resident in the UK*".

Interviewed on BBC Radio 4's *The World at One*, Mr Baldry said the Government would also demand the right to stipulate that a "sufficient proportion" of the crews of such boats should be British and to require them to land a "substantial proportion" of their fish in British ports.

TWA 800

Continued from page 1

tion or other mechanical difficulties were the least likely *explanation and pointed in*creasingly to sabotage.

At the Pentagon, a bomb *was thought most likely*, aviation officers were still examining radar readings mapping the aircraft's route after it left the gate at John F Kennedy Airport.

Initial reports of the crash had suggested that a surface-to-air missile may have been fired from a boat offshore. Numerous witnesses claimed they had seen what appeared to be another object in the sky, *and the radar screen appeared* to have a blip near the plane. But the Pentagon played down *the reports, saying the aircraft* was probably was out of range for most hand-held missiles.

Labour attacks ITN on Major interview

By Arthur Leathley
Political Correspondent

THE Labour leadership attacked ITN yesterday over a decision to broadcast what it called a "fawning" interview with John Major before coverage of the TWA air crash.

Labour made a complaint to the Independent Television Commission, alleging that *News at Ten* contravened the programme code by not offering Tony Blair a similar interview. It also complained *that the interview by Trevor* McDonald was not conducted dispassionately.

The party claimed that Downing Street had ordered that the interview should lead *the broadcast but Mr Major's* aides and ITN executives dismissed the suggestion as non*sense*. Labour leaders also claimed that Downing Street had dictated that the Prime Minister be interviewed by Mr McDonald, whom Mr Major has invited to Downing Street, rather than Michael Brunson, the political editor.

John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, wrote to ITN complaining that the seven-minute interview was "a disgrace. It was neither objective nor probing. It was little short of a party political broadcast."

ITN admitted that it had *had complaints from viewers.*

Crash victims, pages 14, 15

NEWS IN BRIEF

500 women in smear test scare

A hospital has offered more than 500 women repeat cervical smear tests because doctors are unsure about the original results. *Another 32* have been offered the chance to see a gynaecologist because *of concern about the accuracy* of their tests.

The James Paget Hospital in Gorleston, Norfolk, said last month that 8,200 tests dating back to 1993 were being re-examined because of doubts about their accuracy. A member of the hospital's screening staff has been suspended.

Libel case won

John Kennedy, a prospective Tory parliamentary candidate, won his High Court libel action against Brian Wilson, Labour's campaign manager, and David Hill, chief press spokesman. They agreed to pay substantial damages over a press release alleging Mr Kennedy had "links" with Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian-Serb leader.

Widow's victory

Margaret McTear, whose husband died of cancer three years ago, has won the right to sue a tobacco company for compensation. The Court of Session in Edinburgh yesterday rejected Imperial Tobacco's attempt to make Mrs McTear, of Ayrshire, put up £2 million as a security bond before the case could go ahead.

Bombs inquiry

Nine men arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act on Monday were being questioned last night. Eight were being held in London and one in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands. Seven of the detentions were made in London when police recovered bomb-making equipment. The two other men were arrested in Birmingham.

Dons accept cash

Dons at Cambridge have voted overwhelmingly to accept a £1.5 million donation from the tobacco giant BAT Industries. In a three-week ballot, 1,128 members of the university supported the sponsorship of a chair in international relations, with only 583 opposing it. More than half of the academic staff voted.

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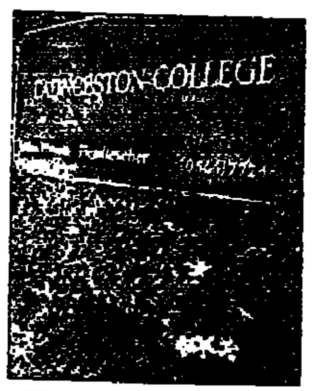
NATIONAL SAVINGS

Death of girl on school trip leaves town in shock

By Joanna Bale in Launceston



The college is the town's only secondary school

THE parents and pupils of Launceston College struggled to come to terms with the idea that a 13-year-old pupil could be murdered on a school trip.

Many mothers were near tears as they came to collect their children from the school yesterday. With memories of Dunblane and the Wolverhampton machete attack still vivid, the rape and murder of Caroline Dickinson was another reminder of the vulnerability of their children.

Parents of the pupils on the French trip will have to wait until police have finished interviewing the children before they are reunited.

One woman, who was collecting her 12-year-old daughter, said: "This really is every parent's nightmare. When you send your children off on these trips abroad, you pray they won't get into any kind of trouble or danger, so it's always a relief when they come back.

"I just feel so sorry for Caroline's parents. She was so young. I expect it was her first time away from home, and it's just terrible to think that she won't be coming back alive."

Almost every resident in the ancient market town of Launceston, Cornwall, was touched by the tragedy. A former pupil, Suzannah West, 21, laid a small floral tribute to the dead teenager outside the school and said: "It is the only secondary school, so every child and parent will know someone at the school."

Miss West said her father had been a teacher there for 30 years. She added: "I went on one of the trips to France eight years ago. They are recreational, and a bit of a 'jolly'. You pay for the trips yourself, and when I went we stayed in chalets in the grounds of a château with four girls to each room.

"The whole school and staff go on these trips at some point. They are pretty cheap, but good fun."

Caroline lived with her mother, Susan, and younger sister in a Victorian terraced cottage on the edge of the town, which stands on a hill overlooking the River Tamar, near the border with Devon.

Neighbours in the quiet street spoke of Caroline as a "lovely girl, of whom any parent would be proud". One woman said: "She was a pretty girl with long, blonde hair — quite tall and striking. Her little sister doted on her and would follow her everywhere. They would often play together in the park across the road.

"We can't believe this has happened. In this part of the world children grow up carefree and can often be quite naive compared with kids from the city. So it has really shocked everyone to the core.

"Her mother must be beside herself with grief — to wave your daughter off on a school trip only to be told a few days later that she's been raped and murdered in her bed is just so horrific."

The death came during a peak period for school trips — just before the summer holidays. Northern France is a popular destination.

More than one million trips are organised by English schools every year. The Lyme Bay canoeing tragedy and a fatal M1 minibus crash have led to stricter safety regulations. But there are few national guidelines. The onus is on local authorities and individual schools set their own.

Police at the youth hostel in Pleine Fougères, northwest France, where the Plymouth girl Caroline Dickinson was found murdered

Area that thought it was far from danger

By Bill Frost

A PARTY of 40 children arrived at the small town of Pleine Fougères last Sunday for a school trip that should have been as removed from danger as is possible. The setting - where Brittany meets Normandy was idyllic.

Pleine Fougères nestles in countryside far away from any large town or major road.

The town, where Caroline Dickinson, 13, was raped and murdered, was chosen as a base for school trips because of its charm and its proximity to historically important tourist sites like Mont St Michele.

Pupils from Launceston College have been coming here for three years and are liked for their good manners, said the owner of the Hotel des Voyages.

Christian Couet, the mayor, said last night the town was deeply shocked by the murder: "This is such a quiet place" he added, shaking his head in disbelief at what had happened.

About 2,500 people live in the town which is surrounded by some of the best farming land in the region. Now the fields of ripening corn have been ruffled by the rotor blades of a police search helicopter.

Yesterday in the square, a few townspeople stood in a silent group watching police come and go from the Auberge de Jeunesse where Caroline's classmates and their teachers were being questioned. Otherwise, the narrow streets lined with low stone-built houses were quiet.

A senior spokesman for the Gendarmarie Nacional said crime was almost unknown in Pleine Fougères before Caroline's death. "This is the kind of town where children can play on their own at night. There are no drugs, no trouble." he said.

He said the pupils and their teachers had to spend last night at the hostel where the murder took place. "We cannot say when they will be allowed to leave. It could be some time though as they all have to be interviewed through interpreters."

Last night local people delivered flowers to the hostel as the questioning continued. One 13-year-old local girl said: "This the worst thing that has ever happened in this town."

The search has gone house-to-house with almost 100 officers drafted to help in the hunt for the killer.

No children played in the blazing afternoon sunshine, there were no old men on their favourite chairs outside the Hotel des Voyages.

As the press descended on the town, police erected crowd control barriers on all approach roads to the Auberge de Jeunesse.

Louis Thébault, president of the association that runs the youth hostel, said last night that the hostel would continue to function normally.

Handbag thief, 19, given life sentence

By Kathryn Knight

A JUDGE jailed a 19-year-old handbag thief for life yesterday, saying that he felt obliged to protect the public from the "predator" for as long as possible.

Ragbhir Singh Digwa had just been released from a two-year sentence for three robberies when he knocked Nichola Mann to the ground and snatched her bag, Winchester Crown Court was told.

Judge Tucker, QC, told Digwa that he seemed certain to reoffend within days of leaving prison. "I feel obliged, awesome and terrible as it may be, to take a course that will ensure that you will not be released on the public until those who have the ability and time to monitor you can put their hands on their hearts and say this man is no longer a danger to the public."

Digwa, who denied robbery, will serve his sentence at a young offenders' institution until he is 21, when he will move to an adult prison.

Ms Mann, 26, of Shirley, Southhampton, was pulled backwards onto the pavement by Digwa during the attack on New Year's Eve. She was not hurt but was deeply distressed, the court was told. Her purse contained £60.

The attack was the latest in a line of similar offences, which began when Digwa was 13. Philip Statman, for the defence, admitted that Digwa, an unemployed drug addict, had rejected opportunities to rehabilitate himself but appealed for leniency.

Judge Tucker, 66, is well known for his tough stance on law and order. Two months ago he jailed a sex attacker for 27 years.

James Hill, Conservative MP for Southampton Test, said: "The judge is to be congratulated for his strong stand against street crime."

Close denies that ball-tampering is acceptable

By Tim Jones

THE former England cricket captain Brian Close had some blunt things to say about his fellow team member Geoffrey Boycott yesterday when he gave evidence to the jury considering allegations against Imran Khan, the Pakistan captain, of libel.

Questioned by George Carman, QC, for Imran, Close said he disagreed with Boycott's reported views that ball-tampering had become an acceptable practice which he had seen many England players doing.

Carman: Is he a friend of yours?

Close: He was a colleague.

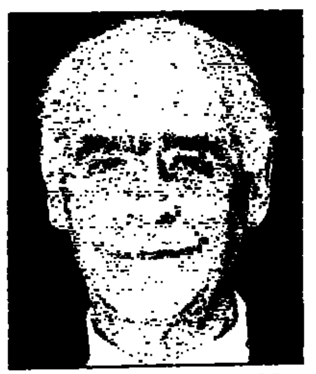
Carman: You would say he is an honest man, wouldn't you?.

Close: I wouldn't like to answer that.

Carman: Were you surprised by what Mr Boycott was saying?

Close: Knowing his personality, I am not surprised. He was full of bravado, making assumptions that were wrong.

Close was one of several former England cricketers who gave evidence to the court yesterday in the libel action brought by Ian Botham and Allan Lamb against Imran. They are suing over an interview printed in *India Today* magazine which they say called them racist, uneducated, and lacking in class and upbringing. Botham alone is suing over a story in *The Sun* which, he says, accused him of ball-tampering.



Close: disagreed with Boycott's views

Mr Carman asked Close: "Have you heard some players find ball-tampering to be acceptable practice?"

Close said: "If it has happened, it is frowned on by most players."

Close said he had been involved in matches where he had seen bowlers trying to push balls into shape. "I have seen umpires use coins to press the seam back into shape; there is nothing wrong with that. It is when you deface, it is wrong."

Lamb yesterday told the jury that he deliberately had broken his contract because he feared the sport's governing authorities were prepared to ignore allegations of ball-tampering by the Pakistan team. Lamb, who also captained Northamptonshire, admitted he had been fined £1,000 by his club and £6,000 by the Test & County Cricket Board after writing a newspaper article about Pakistani ball-tampering during a Test Match.

He said he knew he should have sought permission before writing the piece. "I knew it was a breach and I did it deliberately because I wanted it brought out into the open."

Lamb claimed the whole England team knew the Pakistani side were tampering with the ball.

John Emburey, the former England bowler, told Charles Gray, QC, for Botham and Lamb, that had never known Botham tamper with a ball or do anything contrary to the laws of cricket.

Imran denies libel. The case continues.

Cover-up for spirit world as ghost-hunters raise the roof

By Audrey Magee
Ireland Correspondent

A COAT of paint on an old shed roof was last night hoped to be the end of a mass outbreak of ghost-spotting that has brought crowds to a council house near Dublin.

It started five nights ago after Charlene Hughes, 12, camped in the garden of her home with a friend Michelle Doyle, 11. They claimed to have seen ghostly figures dancing on the garden wall. Charlene's father Vincent camped in the garden for the following days, and also saw shapes which moved up and down the wall before disappearing into the distance of the Pinewood estate.

As word spread, a small crowd gathered in the garden of 68 Pinewood Green Road. By Thursday night, it had swelled to about 400. The hours following pub closing are the most popular, although the build-up begins at 10pm and most stay until 3am.

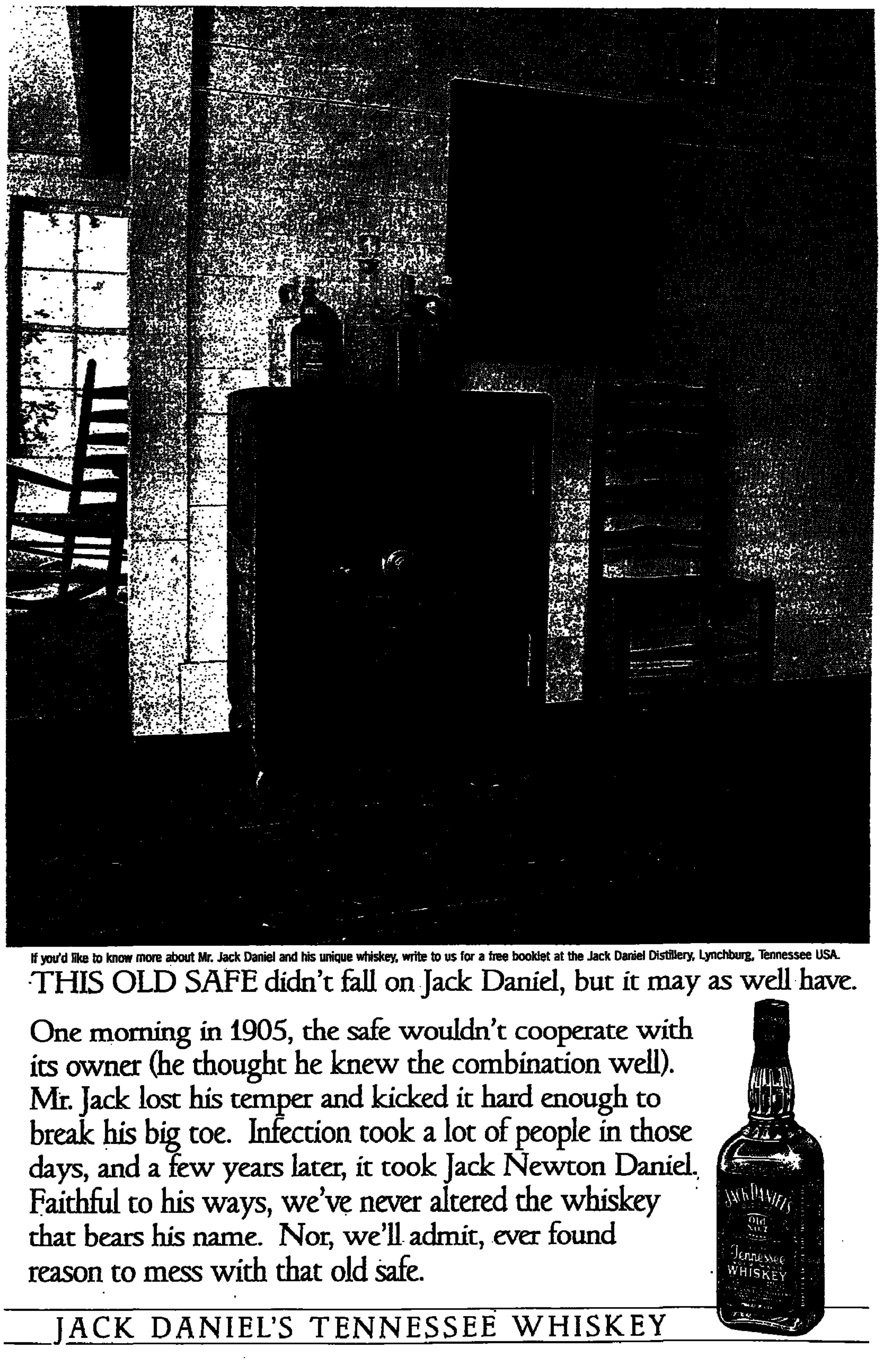
On Thursday night, a spook sleuth arrived on the scene. Sandra Ramjani, a psychic psychologist, said there were no ghosts. The shimmer resulted from car lights reflecting off the galvanised roof of a next-door neighbour's shed. Last night the neighbours painted the roof, hoping to keep the crowds away.

The shed belongs to Josephine Lynch, who complained that spectators as old as 70 had been traipsing through her flowerbeds and standing on her car to get a view.

She said: "You can not go to bed because you do not know what damage these people are going to do. It is a complete invasion of our privacy."

Mr Hughes agreed: "I'm fed up with the crowds thronging into the estate and staying till around three in the morning, making it impossible for the residents to sleep."

Crowds are still expected to arrive over the weekend, hoping that sightings may continue. One local policeman said the spectacle had evolved into an evening's entertainment. It was somewhere to go after the pub. He added: "And you always see things better after a few pints."



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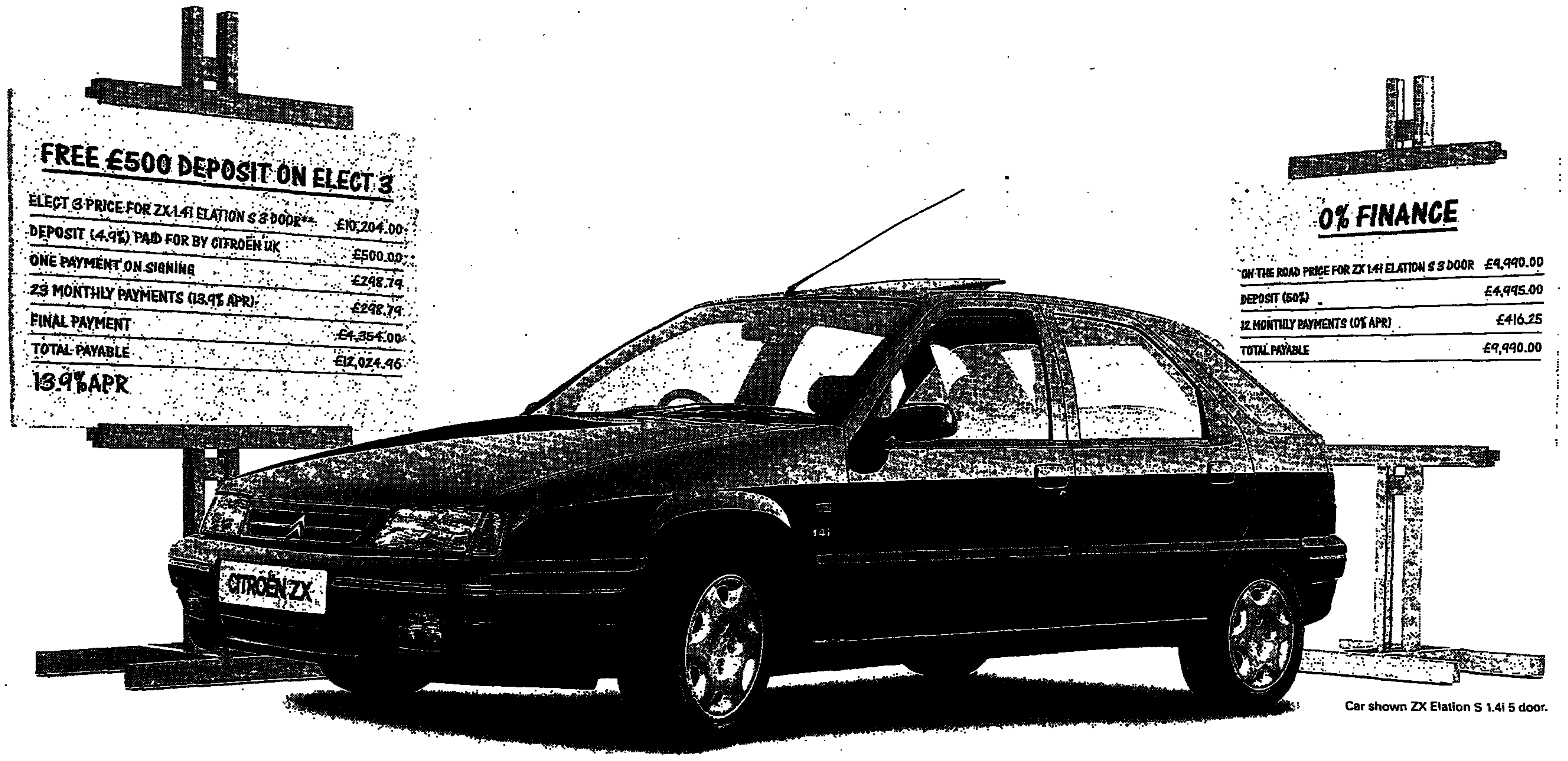

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Council says there were very strict and clear rules about using busway

Crash bus driver 'ignored signs'

By Kate Alderson

THE driver of a double-decker bus that crashed into a low bridge, injuring 50 schoolchildren, had taken a route restricted to single-deckers and apparently ignored a "no right turn" sign and failed to observe a low bridge warning, council officials said yesterday.

Highway experts from Cheshire County Council said that the busway at Runcorn was open only to single-decker local buses and permit holders. Children said they shouted to the driver that he was going the wrong way. One boy told his classmates to duck as the bus approached the bridge.

Sixty-five children aged 10 and 11 and five adults from Palace Fields County Primary School, Runcorn, were returning from an end-of-term trip to Waterworld in Stoke-on-Trent when the accident happened at 5.40pm on Thursday. The top of the bus, full of children singing songs, was ripped off. The bus is owned by Dobsons of Northwich and was driven by Geoffrey Bell, 41, an experienced driver.

Four weeks ago a double-decker bus operated by another company collided with a low bridge on a different stretch of the busway. The upper deck of the bus, which was empty after dropping off a party of schoolchildren, was ripped off.

Peter Cocker, the county engineer, said that the busway had been used for 20 years. "We have very strict, very clear and very well-known rules about who can and who can't use the busway. Only registered bus services are able to use the busway. To register an operator must be providing a regular bus service with single-decker buses. One-off operators, tour companies and occasional users cannot register and are therefore banned from the route."

A council spokesman said the crash bus had almost certainly ignored this rule, driven through a "no right turn" sign to enter the busway and failed to observe a "low bridge" sign. He said each section of the busway was clearly signed to draw attention to the low bridges and the fact that double-deckers are banned. The busway has more than 40 bridges, 11ft 9ins high.

Lindsey Hayes, 11, in hospital yesterday, and Ryan McGibbon, 10, who shouted at classmates to duck as the bus headed for the bridge

Five children are still being treated in Warrington District General Hospital. One has a cheek fracture and is undergoing post-operative care. Four have cuts, including one with serious head cuts, and are in a stable condition. Craig Hinkins, the deputy head, is being treated for cuts.

Ryan McGibbon, 10, was sitting at the front of the bus's top deck when the crash happened. He said: "Mr Hinkins said, 'Look children, doesn't the bridge look very low.' Everyone was shouting that the driver was going the wrong way but he said it was a short cut."

Ryan told his classmates to duck while Mr Hinkins pulled children to the floor. "People could have died," Ryan said. "The roof just caved in. Lots of people were crying and I let others get off before me and helped them down the stairs."

Jamara Kugawa, 11, who underwent minor surgery for cuts, said: "I didn't think we were going to make it. The bridge was not big enough. I was saying the bridge was too small. I thought the bus was going to blow up."

David Cracknell, Cheshire's director of education, said Dobson's had been chosen from a list of recommended contractors who complied with specifications and were competitively priced. The council regularly used the company for journeys from home to school. Mr Cracknell said he would review their relationship after the police accident enquiry. Ronald Dobson, 73, managing director of the small family bus firm, said that Mr Bell was an experienced driver who had been with the company for about four years. The company, which had eight single-deckers and two double-deckers, always gave route instructions to drivers but did not tell them exactly how to get into towns because one-way systems constantly changed. "That's why we use what we consider to be experienced drivers, to use their own knowledge to find their destinations," he said.

Mr Dobson said he ran a single-decker service on part of the busway, a service that was registered with the Traffic Commissioners in Manchester. He added: "All of us at Dobson Buses Ltd are extremely distressed to hear of the accident involving one of our vehicles. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to all those injured and to their families.

"At this stage it is unfair to speculate on the reason for the accident and we do not yet know why the bus driver went on to the Runcorn busway at that junction."

The county council said last night they wished to make it clear that Dobson's buses was a respected contractor with the council and the authority would have no compunction in hiring Mr Dobson's company.

Superintendent David Smith, divisional commander of Cheshire police, said he was "obviously concerned" that there had been two similar accidents in such a short time. He said the bus driver would be interviewed by police today and investigating officers were liaising with the Ministry of Transport.

> **All of us at Dobson's Buses Limited are extremely distressed to hear of the accident involving one our . vehicles. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to all those injured and to their families.**
>
> **At this stage it is unfair to speculate on the reason for the accident. However the company will co-operate fully with the official enquiry into circumstances leading up to this terribly sad accident.**

A notice of regret outside the bus company depot

Lilley may cut off fuel bill support for claimants

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

PETER LILLEY suggested last night that he might end direct debit payments to benefit claimants for fuel and water bills in an attempt to save £15 million.

In future, people on income support who fail to pay their own bills risk having their fuel supplies cut off. Labour immediately attacked the scheme, which was disclosed in a parliamentary answer yesterday.

At present, if a benefit claimant fails to pay his or her bills, the Social Security Department automatically deducts the payment from income support benefit and pays it to the utility company. But Mr Lilley has become increasingly concerned that his department is turning into a debt collector for the utilities, a job which now costs the government £15 million.

The Social Security Secretary announced that he would review the scheme, after a sharp rise in take-up despite cuts in fuel prices. The number of direct-payment deductions had risen steadily from about 100,000 in the late 1970s to over 500,000 now, it said. "Yet in recent years, although water prices have increased, fuel prices have fallen or remained stable."

Chris Smith, Shadow Social Security Secretary, described the move as "another mean-minded measure" from Mr Lilley. "Scrapping direct payments hits directly at the poorest people in the country and will make it much harder for them to organise their family finances in order to meet their bills and stop having basic services such as gas and electricity cut off."

Mr Lilley's plans to privatise the administration of child benefit and other payments brought the threat of industrial action from trade unions, who said that members might be advised to withhold information from private firms invited to tender for the project.

Opposition parties pledged that they would do what they could to stop the privatisation going ahead. Labour is to hold a debate on the issue next Tuesday and the Liberal Democrats are pressing for a Commons statement from Mr Lilley on Monday.

The Social Security Secretary further announced that three companies were being invited to tender for the administration of the Child Benefit Centre in Washington, Tyne and Wear. In addition, he disclosed that three companies would be appointed to work with the Benefits Agency in running benefits delivery in Yorkshire, the West Country, East Anglia and London for 12 months.

The moves are part of the Government's drive to cut the £3 billion cost of handling social security benefits by 25 per cent — saving £750 million.

Lottery cash to fund Stonehenge centre

STONEHENGE is to become a £65 million theme park using private investment and lottery cash. The plan includes a visitor centre about a mile from the site with a virtual reality tour, shops, restaurants and a monorail to the stones (Peter Foster writes).

English Heritage, which is responsible for the monument, will for the first time use the Government's Private Finance Initiative, under which business puts up part of the money. The centre, with 8,000 square metres of floor space and parking for 3,000 cars, is expected to attract 1.8 million visitors a year, nearly double the present number. Finances permitting, work should start next year and be completed by the end of the decade.

Sir Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of English Heritage, said that private money would be used to build the centre and lottery money would fund a surrounding 4,000-acre park.

Opponents, however, believe that the plan will destroy Stonhenge's mystical appeal. Paul Sample, a Liberal Democrat councillor, said: "This abhorrent commercialism is out of keeping with what people want."

BBC was fined £10,000 for Maxwell comments

By Michael Horsnell

THE BBC and the makers of the television quiz show *Have I Got News For You* have each been fined £10,000 for contempt over scathing remarks by its presenter, Angus Deayton, about the sons of the late publishing tycoon Robert Maxwell.

A reporting ban on the contempt proceedings, which were heard in May, was imposed by two High Court judges, but it was lifted yesterday after an application by *The Times*.

The BBC and Hat Trick Productions were accused of contempt by the Attorney-General after Deayton called Kevin and Ian Maxwell "heartless, scheming bastards". The remark was broadcast on BBC2 on April 29, 1994, six months before their trial for conspiracy to defraud Mirror Group pensioners was due to start.

Solicitors for the two brothers protested to the BBC the following day, asking it to delete that and other offending material before the programme was re-broadcast that night. But, after BBC lawyers were consulted, no changes were made.

Lord Justice Auld and Mr Justice Sachs were told in the High Court on May 24 that the programme amounted to "a calculated, deliberate act to challenge the courts to do something about it".

The Maxwells were cleared of all charges after an eight-month trial which eventually started in May 1995, but Kevin will face a second trial for fraud later this year.

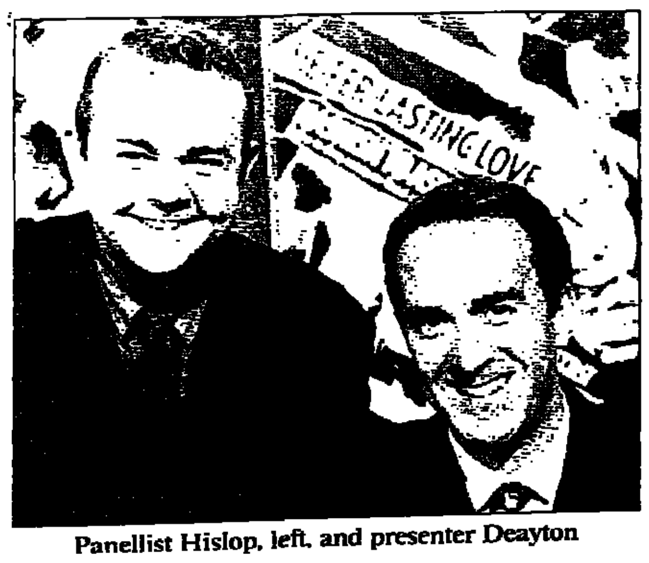
After seeing a recording of the programme, the judges imposed a contempt of court order banning reporting.

The words complained of arose during a round called "The odd one out" in which contestants are asked to explain why one of four photographs is different from the others. One featured angry Mirror pensioners.

Deayton said on the programme: "All have profited from misfortune except for the Mirror pensioners . . . no mentioning no Maxwells, er, names. The BBC are in fact cracking down on references to Ian and Kevin Maxwell just in case programme makers appear biased in their treatment of these two heartless, scheming bastards".

After the show's closing credits, the cameras showed an exchange involving Deayton and the two regular panellists, Ian Hislop, Editor of *Private Eye*, and the comedian Paul Merton, discussing the risk of contempt of court. Hislop said to Deayton: "Nothing personal Angus, but contempt of court has a statutory two-year term of imprisonment".

A combined audience of 6.14 million viewers watched the programme, which is partly scripted and then edited.



Panellist Hislop, left, and presenter Deayton

Leading article, page 21

Foster pair win ruling on smoking

By Lin Jenkins

A COUPLE threatened with losing the child they had fostered for five years because they smoked have been told that she can remain in their care.

They have been looking after the ten-year-old girl, who suffers from cerebral palsy and asthma, for three days a week since her condition and tantrums proved too much for her natural parents. They applied to take the girl full-time because she disliked the care home where she spent the rest of the week. They were told by Dorset Social Services that they faced the choice of giving up smoking or losing the right to look after her.

A panel sitting in Dorchester ruled yesterday that they could continue with the present arrangement and a decision is yet to be made on their application to foster her full-time.

Robin SeQueira, director of Dorset Social Services, said that there was no strict non-smoking policy regarding foster homes and adoptions, but there was a preference for non-smokers where a child had respiratory problems. She said that the panel made its decision based on the care already offered by the foster parents to the child.

When the foster mother was first told that she faced losing the child, she called the threat "an act of cruelty" and said that the girl would not understand why she could not stay with them.

School run by cult tests pupils for HIV

By Kathryn Knight

A BOARDING school was strongly criticised yesterday for making its 50 pupils have regular tests for the Aids virus.

All pupils and staff at the £1,925-a-term Osho Ko Hsuan school, in Chawleigh, north Devon, have an HIV test at the start of every term. A swab of saliva is [illegible]. The school also requests that all visitors using their facilities bring a certificate stating that they are HIV-negative.

As Aids charities condemned the policy, Suvendra, the Headmaster, said that the school had a duty to protect its pupils and others "because we are not sure exactly how the virus is spread. We have a policy of strict hygiene." The school takes pupils from the age as five up to 16, although currently all pupils are aged between 11 and 16. They work for GCSEs and also study the teachings of Osho, formerly known as Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

This weekend the school is hosting a music festival. Leaflets advertising the event say the school is "an Aids-free zone" and state: "You will need an HIV-negative test certificate (no copies) not more than three months old."

Justifying the request, Mr Suvendra said: "It is our job to protect our children. People at the festival will share shower facilities, toilets and cutlery, which could spread the illness."

Tom Lawson, of the Terrence Higgins Trust, a leading Aids charity, was appalled and said he had never heard of a saliva test for HIV.

The National Aids Trust said: "This whole policy is as appalling as it is unhelpful. The reality is that there is no evidence of HIV being spread through normal social contact."

The Department for Education said that it had no jurisdiction over the private school, but would intervene if serious issues arose.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

MURDER IN THE FAMILY

As Shaun Russell mourns his wife and daughter, bludgeoned to death last week, Jeremy Howe reveals

how terrifying the nightmare was after random savagery hit his own loving family

News Review, The Sunday Times tomorrow

How the tide of life changed for the dashing sailor Prince

BY LIN JENKINS

DURING a naval career spanning almost 20 years, the Duke of York found that his job provided a welcome respite from the pressures of being a royal, and a fitting vehicle for his eclectic talents.

He described himself as an ordinary junior officer who suffered the same pangs as everybody else about leaving his wife at home for months to cope alone. He once admitted: "I don't like it. Full stop."

In joining the senior service in September 1979, the Duke claimed it gave him a sense of purpose and provided an opportunity to be treated, in part at least, like any other officer. Despite reports that during his early days in the Navy the *Duke was considered an arrogant young man,* with a reputation as the playboy Prince, he matured to earn respect, popularity and affection from his fellow sailors.

In an inauspicious start, he is widely reported to have blundered in the mess at Dartmouth Naval College when early one evening he introduce himself to a Rear Admiral with the words: "You can call me Andy.". He was rebuffed with the icy reply: "And you can call me Sir."

He was taught to fly helicopters at RNAS Culdrose and presented with his wings by his father in April 1981 before joining the front-line 820 Sea King Squadron on *HMS Invincible*. Around the same time he was praised for his courage in rescuing a seaman who slipped overboard from a submarine in the Clyde.

By the time he served in the Falklands conflict the following year, his colleagues referred to him simply as "H" (for Highness). On one mission he acted as a decoy during an Exocet missile attack and took part in the rescue operation after the supply ship *Atlantic Conveyor* was hit.

He gained a reputation for joining in, whether it be at the bar drinking a Coca-Cola, or joining the singing of a gently mocking song penned by his companions. It was sung to the tune of the pop record *Prince Charming* by Adam and the Ants. One line went "Don't you ever, don't you ever, stop being Randy, showing them you're handsome?".

Flower of youth: home from the Falklands

He described sonar dipping for mines as like watching paint dry: "It is 98 per cent boredom but, when you have a contact, 2 per cent excitment during which you can hear your own heartbeats."

When he docked in Port Stanley, he was delighted when he was able ring the Queen on the satellite telephone on board the Royal Fleet Auxilliary *Sir Bedivere* which stood alongside *Invincible*. He said: "I made the call and she was in. It is about the right time in the evening. She was quite surprised."

Film footage and photographs of him with a red rose in his teeth when the ship sailed home is one of the enduring images of the war.

His marriage to Sarah Fergusion and his decision to join the general list as a career officer in 1986, and later sign on for a further 12 years, altered his role. After years as a helicopter pilot and helicopter warfare instructor at *HMS Osprey* at Portland, Dorset, he followed the natural progression of a career officer to work for his watchkeeping and ocean navigation certificates, essential if he was eventually to command his own ship.

He complained of the time away from home and that his leave was often spent on royal duties, but said: "You have to take it, otherwise the Navy could not exist."

In May 1988, he joined the Type 42 destroyer *HMS Edinburgh*, on which he gained his bridge watch and ocean navigating certificates. A year later he was flight commander on *HMS Campbeltown* with responsibility for the vessel's two Lynx helicopters.

He returned home and continued his career on shore, at 829 Squadron HQ, Portland, then the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, before he was promoted in February 1992 to lieutenant commander. Nine months later it was announced that he was to take command of his own vessel for the first time, following in the footsteps of the Prince of Wales.

In December 1992 he graduated from the staff college at Camberley and the following April assumed command of the minehunter *HMS Cottesmore*. He filled his cabin with photographs of his estranged wife and his daughters. He said: "As a commanding officer you can get extremely lonely if you're not careful."

Since February 1995 he has been senior pilot of 815 Naval Air Squadron, based at Portland. He will relinquish this role on October 25, before taking up his new appointment on the staff of the directorate of naval operations.

The helicopter hero: later he spoke of loneliness

Paparazzi arrests keep royal party out of the picture

BY EMMA WILKINS

THE Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York were spending their holiday under siege yesterday after the arrests of three paparazzi photographers in the grounds of their French villa.

An Italian was held yesterday morning, following Thursday's capture of two French photographers in combat fatigues in the garden. Gunshots heard just before the arrests of the Frenchmen turned out to be Prince William practising clay pigeon shooting at the Le Clos de Meaux villa, near the village of Seillans, Var, in the south of France.

At least five officers from the Royalty and Diplomatic Protection squad are staying at the villa to guard Prince William and Prince Harry and their cousins, the Princesses Eugenie and Beatrice. French police and dogs are patrolling the grounds.

The French photographers, Franck Doveri, from St Tropez, and Tony Fitoussi, from Paris, managed to sneak across woodland and through bushes to within ten yards of the pool where the Princess, the Duchess and their children had sunbathed earlier.

"Continental paparazzi like to get really close to their targets so they can use smaller lenses," one royal expert said yesterday. "The British are happy working through long lenses so they don't actually have to get up so close."

The pair, who were released from custody on Thursday night, face charges of trespass and intrusion of privacy, which carries a maximum fine of £40,000 and a one-year jail term.

M Doveri works with John-Paul Dousset, who achieved his greatest scoop with his then partner, Daniel Angeli, in 1992 when they snapped the Duchess of York with her financial adviser John Bryan by a pool in St Tropez.

Among the journalists staking out the villa, which belongs to Paddy McNally, a millionaire ex-boyfriend of the Duchess, are a group of 25 French and Italian paparazzi and about six British freelance photographers. The British tabloids are well-represented.

The royal party is expected to remain at the villa until next week. Maurice Athanassiadis, the Mayor of Seillans, said: "I plan to send them a little note along with a bouquet of flowers."

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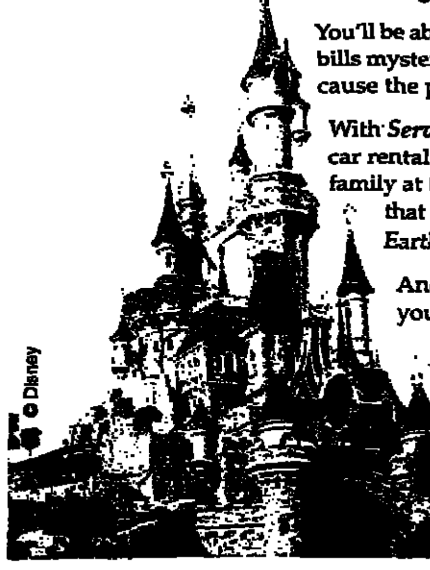

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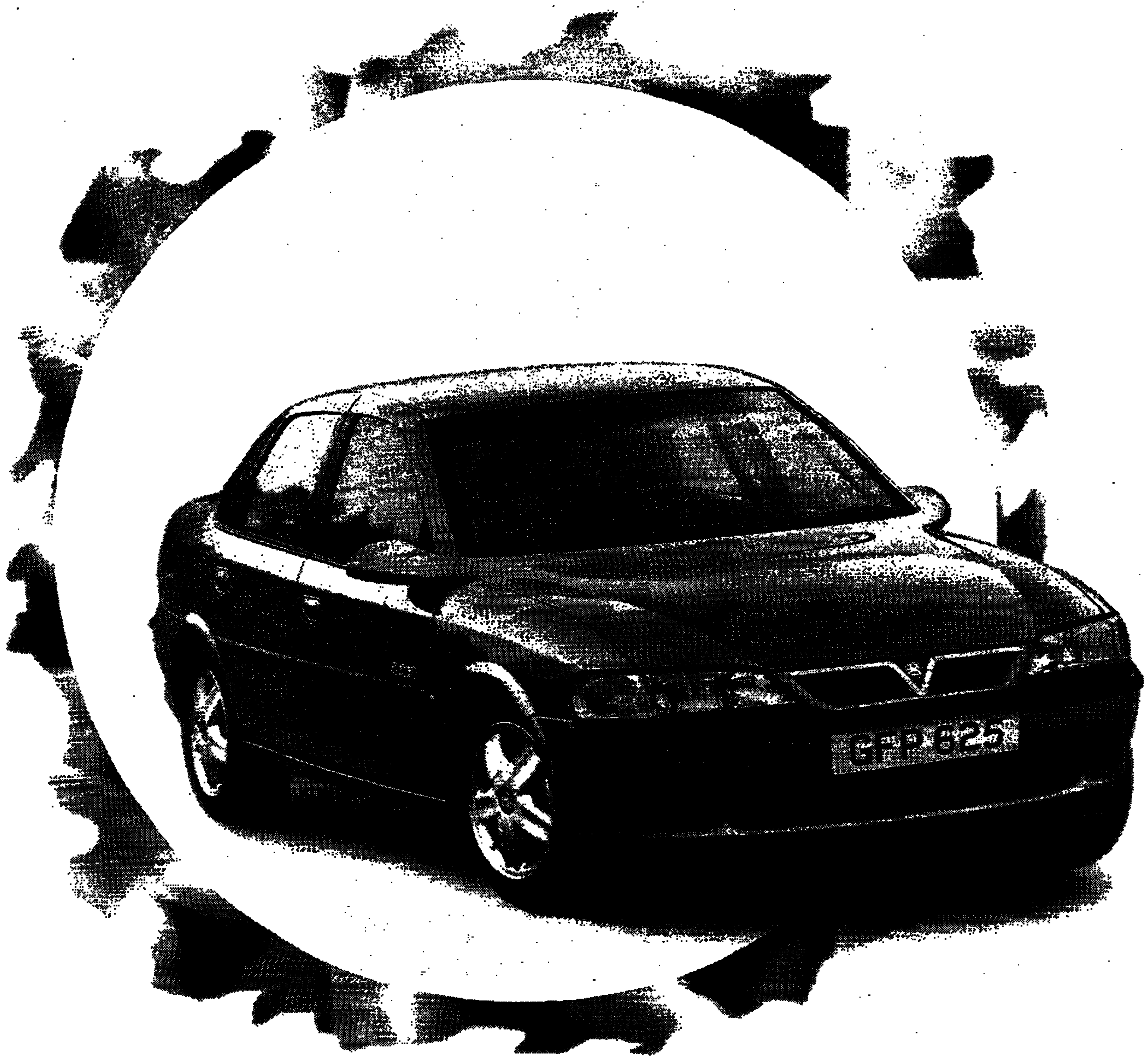

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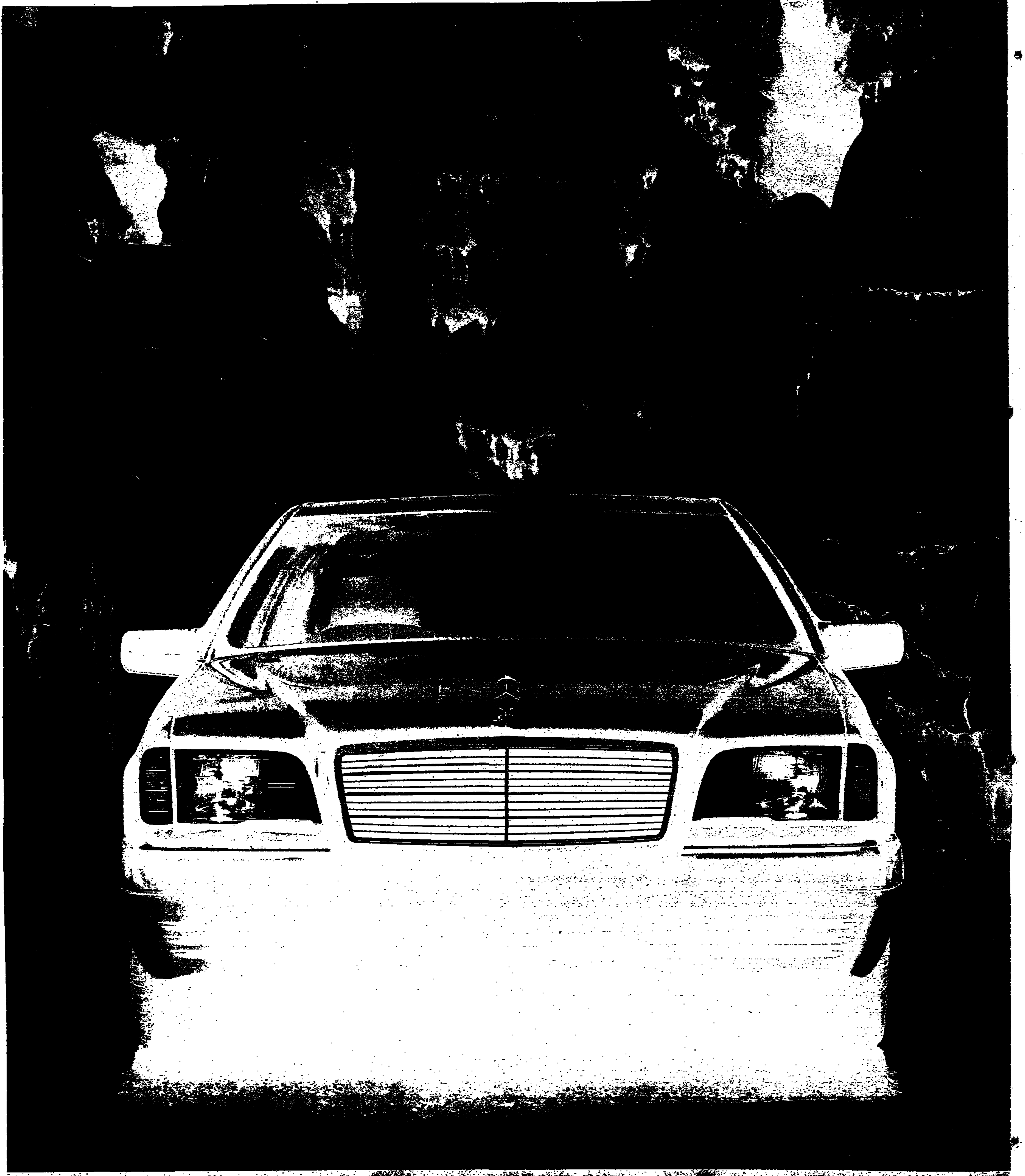

So. Is the end of the world nigh?

On the subject of the car is there anything to add? There's little debate about which is the best in the world. The end of the world [illegible] seems a more interesting topic.

Scientific opinion is divided. Some believe that it is only a matter of time before the 'Taurid Stream' – a procession of cosmic rubble travelling at 46,000 mph – collides with the earth on one of its orbital passages. Even the reinforced high-bending steel pillars of a Mercedes S-class would be unable to protect you if a rock the size of a small island landed on your roof. The after-effect of such an impact would be similar to an all-out nuclear war, creating a cloak of smoke and dust that would block the sun's rays and plunge the earth into the darkness of an ice-age. (Not much fun even in the automatically climate controlled interior of an S-class saloon.)

Alarmist though this scenario appears, for others it is 'nano-technology' which will provide the seeds of self-destruction. Computer companies may soon be able to make machines no larger than an atom; machines so sophisticated that they are capable of reproducing themselves. What if, through accident or malice, they started to replicate at [illegible] speed by harnessing the stray atoms they find around themselves? Within [illegible] matter (including, rather inconveniently, human matter) could be devoured by nano-machines.

This might sound far-fetched but to those familiar with the awesome computer intelligence implanted in an S-class, it is not inconceivable.

Armageddon, however, is more likely to be something entirely out of our control. This will occur when the sun – a vast unstable hydrogen bomb with its clock ticking – finally explodes.

The bad news is that most scientists now agree this will definitely happen. The slightly better news is that forecasts of the event occurring in four billion years have recently been extended to almost five billion years (longer even than the life-span of a Mercedes S-class).

Scientists, crackpots and publicans continue to speculate on how the world will end. Whereas speculation about the car has already ended.

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Shortage of donors holds up transplants

By Lin Jenkins

A SHORTAGE of donor organs has led to a 17 per cent reduction in the number of transplants carried out in the first three months of this year.

A campaign will be launched next week to persuade more people to carry donor cards, or to join the donor register.

The shortage is particularly acute in the case of children. Ashley Taylor, 2, who was at the top of the waiting list for a heart transplant, died on Thursday before a suitable donor could be found. His heart failed last week after he had survived three operations to remedy a congenital defect.

Doctors had said that he was unlikely to survive the week unless a donor could be found. Heart transplants in children are rare. Only nine were performed on children under six in Britain last year. Of those only four involved donors under the age of six.

Ashley's parents, Wayne Taylor, 27, a plastics factory foreman, and Kay Borlase, 27, of Telford, Shropshire, had made a public plea to parents to consider organ donation. There are seven children currently awaiting heart transplants.

Narayanswami Sreeram, the cardiologist treating Ashley at Birmingham Children's Hospital, said that the case illustrated the lack of suitable donors for children. "Getting a heart is not an easy matter."

The shortage of all organs for transplant will be the focus of National Transplant Week, beginning on Monday. In the first three months of this year the number of transplants was 17 per cent down on the same period in 1995. Fiona Gravette, for the National Transplant Information Service, said: "There is a continuing desperate shortage of donor organs. With children it is even worse.

"Because of their size a child has to have an organ from another child and there are very few of them. An adult can have an organ from someone of any age."

Health ministry to blame for CJD deaths, says judge

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

A JUDGE ruled yesterday that the Government was to blame for the deaths of a number of people who contracted the human form of "mad cow" disease after being treated as children with a growth hormone.

Mr Justice Morland said in a test ruling that anybody who began treatment from July 1977 and developed Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease could claim damages for negligence against the Department of Health, which took over responsibility from the Medical Research Council for the formerly experimental programme from that date. The Government will inevitably have to pay damages to a number of bereaved families.

Most of the plaintiffs began their treatment before 1977 — some as long ago as 1959 — and so have lost their claims for negligence. But Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, will be urged to compensate all the victims and their relatives, including those whose treatment began earlier.

There is uncertainty about the position of the "worried well", who fear they will develop the illness and suffer a death the judge described as terrible to the victim and ghastly and utterly distressing for his family.

The Medical Research Council had been warned as early as 1976 that Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease could be contaminating batches of hormone extracted from the pituitary glands of corpses. It was not until three patients receiving similar treatment died in America in 1985 that the therapy was halted.

Sixteen people have already died from the incurable disease; three others are dying, and 1,900 are living with the knowledge that they could be infected.

The judge said at the High Court that, had doctors been made aware from 1977 of the risks, they would not have put new children onto the treatment, although they would have probably let existing patients continue. "It is to be hoped that no more cases will occur, but realistically that is an optimistic hope," he said.

David Body, solicitor for the plaintiffs, said: "The Department of Health, in the name of humanity, should make ex-gratia payments to all the families and individuals, whenever their treatment began." An early-day motion will be tabled in the Commons on Monday demanding compensation for all.

Tam Fry, honorary chairman of the Child Growth Foundation, which helps the affected families, described as iniquitous the payment by ministers of millions of pounds in compensation for cattle with BSE while they resisted any payments to families of CJD victims.

Ashraf Khan, whose son Bahram, a graduate engineer, died aged 27 last year, said: "When they knew the bells were ringing, why didn't they stop it? They should never have played with innocent young lives. They should have at least told the parents that these were experiments."

Andrews: "I could be dead this time next year"

Paul Andrews, 30, of Bromley, Kent, is one of the "worried well", who are seeking compensation for the psychological anguish of knowing they could be struck down by the incurable brain disease. He was expected to grow naturally to 5ft but reached 5ft 5in after receiving injections between the ages of 11 and 17.

"At the end of the day we were short and that was that. What is the difference between 5ft and 5ft 5in when you are alive? I could be dead this time next year and there is quite a high chance of that."

The judge, who heard 25 days of evidence, said many would be disappointed by his conclusions but that he must not be guilty of hindsight or let sympathy affect his judgment.

After being alerted to the CJD risk in 1976 by Dr Alan Dickinson, an eminent veterinary research scientist in Edinburgh, the Medical Research Council did not ask the advice of two expert professors until a year later.

Within a week, they said they were in the uncomfortable position of "not knowing how bad the worst is. Any clinician who uses growth hormone must be made aware of the gruesome possibilities."

But instead of telling doctors who were recommending young people for this treatment, information was kept to the chosen few, the judge said. "The clinicians were kept in the dark," he said. "An unwise philosophy pervaded both within the Department of Health and the Medical Research Council that the risk of slow virus contamination of human growth hormone was too awful to contemplate."

In ruling that only cases of CJD among people treated after July 1977 were caused by the negligence of the Department of Health, he absolved the council of any blame during the period before then.

John Whalley yesterday with son Steven: crime career is over, the court was told

Bungling burglar in box gets a year inside

By A Staff Reporter

The box where the thief was trapped overnight

A FATHER who persuaded his son to mail him in a cramped wooden box was jailed for a year yesterday. John Whalley, 53, tried to use the "Trojan Horse" scheme to get into a parcel depot, which he intended to burgle.

Instead he found himself stuck overnight at the wrong warehouse and was caught by a guard after leaving the 2 metre by ½ metre box for a walk. A jury refused to accept his defence that he allowed himself to be posted for a bet.

At Birmingham Crown Court, Assistant Recorder Alan Mainds said: "There is a danger of people applauding those who cheat others out of property by this sort of cunning means. I'm not going to fall into this trap."

Whalley's son, Steven, 22, was put on probation for 18 months. Both had been found guilty of conspiracy to burgle the City Link warehouse in Saltley, Birmingham.

The court was told that the father, a former City Link employee, had convictions for burglary, dishonesty and motoring offences dating back 40 years. His son left the box at Birmingham for delivery to City Link's parcel depot in Stoke-on-Trent, but a manager decided against overnight delivery and it was kept in Birmingham. Inside the box police found rubber gloves, a knife, parcel tape, screwdriver, milk, Mars bars and a makeshift toilet.

Hugh O'Brien-Quinn, in mitigation, said that the father was suffering from depression. Before the trial in May he was seen wondering along the M5 "at the dead of night, not knowing where he was". He added: "In the past two days, he was taken to hospital after an overdose. As far as his criminality is concerned, this is the end."

David Pearson, for the prosecution, had told the jury: "You will see a similarity to a Trojan Horse, when the Greeks besieged the city of Troy and managed to smuggle men in by leaving a large wooden horse outside."

NEWS IN BRIEF

River takes second brother

Charles Hawkes, 25, drowned in the River Tees at Stockton, Co Durham, almost two years after his brother died on the same stretch of water.

Mr Hawkes, from Thornaby-on-Tees, vanished from the sight of his friends on Thursday afternoon after going for a swim. Police divers found his body two hours later. In August 1944 his elder brother Brian drowned near by after a boating accident. Police said the incidents highlighted the dangers of the river, which might appear safe but had strong undercurrents.

Girls of note

Twenty-two choristers aged eight to 14 have been recruited for the first all-girl choir at Ripon Cathedral, North Yorkshire. Training and rehearsals begin shortly, with the aim of their singing at one choral service a month by November, increasing to one a week next year.

Brewery blaze

An 18th-century timbered brewery shop in Lewes, East Sussex, was severely damaged by a fire that destroyed handwritten records dating from 1790. Five adjoining shops were damaged before 75 firemen brought the blaze under control. Police are treating the fire as arson.

Road rage death

A driver who knocked down and killed a pedestrian after losing his temper was jailed for 21 months by Newcastle Crown Court. Leslie Wood, 37, who was over the drink-drive limit, said he hit Lee Irving, 21, after trying to "prove a point" by passing a car that had cut in front of him.

Black and white

A black gunman is believed to have used a skin lightener to try to make himself look white when he successfully held up a cashier at a NatWest Bank in Coulsdon, Surrey. A police spokesman said: "It is bizarre. There have also been cases of white guys blacking themselves up."

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Former evangelists start network to aid victims of extremism

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

A NETWORK of self-help groups called Fundamentalists Anonymous is to be launched by former evangelical Christians to help those who have left or are struggling to break free from the growing number of extremist churches.

The network will provide a haven for those trying to rebuild their lives after leaving the closed and sometimes frightening world of fundamentalist Christianity. It could also help those damaged by authoritarian groups such as the Nine O'Clock Service in Sheffield, where a powerful elite made it almost impossible for members to question the activities of its discredited leader, Chris Brain.

Evangelical groups now have a high profile, with growing influence in Parliament. The movement is one of the few growth areas in the churches today.

But Fundamentalists Anonymous is launched amid concern throughout the Church of England that, despite the advances of modern science and philosophy, many churches on the fringes of evangelicalism still preach that every word of the Bible is literally true. Their worship leaders can set a bewildering array of rules, such as eschewing the cinema and heavy metal music, aimed at protecting believers from the supposedly corrupting influences of 20th-century life. The leaders believe in an awe-inspiring God, Hell and the Devil, and will sometimes incorporate bizarre and terrifying exorcism rituals in worship.

Some go so far as to dictate which clothing colours are acceptable, teaching that wearing black, for example, can be a symptom of possession. Many lay special emphasis on "sins of the flesh", preaching against homosexuality and pre-marital sex.

Although most of these churches are "house churches", operating in school halls or in members' homes, extreme fundamentalism can also be found at the heart of the Church of England. Fundamentalism is proving attractive to young people, especially those with no religious upbringing who want to socialise without the pressure of drink, drugs or promiscuity. It offers them a host of compelling certainties in an uncertain world.

Problems can arise when members of these churches challenge their extreme beliefs and encounter hostility and authoritarianism. Many leave church life completely, rejecting their faith as well as the organisation.

John Martin, former editor of the evangelicals' *Church of England Newspaper*, who has been involved with talks about the proposed network, said one aim was to help such people to realise that it was possible to move on to alternative styles of Christian fellowship without abandoning their faith. "It will be a self-help network as opposed to an organisation that tells people what to do."

One of the three founding members, a young woman who preferred not to disclose her identity, said many of those who might benefit were from the mainstream Church of England evangelical wing. "When I was a teenager, I took evangelicalism on board completely. As I grew older, my problem became one of belief. But I have met other people who are very bruised by all the guilt that goes so often with evangelicalism."

The foundations for the network will be laid tomorrow at a seminar in central London, where former evangelicals will examine why so many people drop out. The Rev Donald Reeves, rector of St James's, which is hosting the seminar, said: "Evangelicalism seems to be good at bringing people to personal faith, but not so good at taking them on from there. Disturbingly high numbers of new converts burn out, but their churches are too busy seeking more to notice."

At Your Service, Weekend, page 17

DOUG MARKE

Bishop Hardy renewed his own offer to go if Dr Carey wished it. "We take oaths of obedience"

Bishop of Lincoln urges sub-dean to resign

By Ruth Gledhill

THE Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Rev Robert Hardy, yesterday urged the cathedral's sub-dean to resign to end a bitter eight-year dispute.

The Dean of Lincoln, the Very Rev Brandon Jackson, has already said that he would resign provided that the sub-dean, Canon Rex Davis, went too.

Bishop Hardy said that the conflict at the 11th-century cathedral was "difficult and damaging" for the Church. Canon Davis should obey the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and resign as he had asked. Canon Davis, who has refused to resign, was not available for comment.

The dean and the sub-dean, who are in their early 60s, were asked publicly to resign two weeks ago. Dr Carey described the conflict between them as a cancer in the body of Lincoln Cathedral and said that it was "a scandal dishonouring the name of Our Lord".

Dr Jackson, who was on holiday when Dr Carey urged the resignations, said that while away he had informed the archbishop that he was "already considering leaving if the sub-dean moved too".

But because Canon Davis declined to leave, Dr Jackson had advised the archbishop that he "did not propose to leave at that time". The dean said that the pressure on him and his wife, Mary, "to stay in Lincoln and resist the archbishop's call to go is very considerable and growing by the day".

Dr Carey, before departing for a month-long foreign trip last night, said: "I am grateful for the dean's positive response to withdraw provided the sub-dean does so."

Because cathedrals are autonomous and their clergy are protected by "parson's freehold" — the right to a job for life — neither Dr Carey nor Bishop Hardy can force the dean or the sub-dean to go.

Bishop Hardy, who offered his own resignation to Dr Carey last summer, said that he would still be prepared to go if Dr Carey told him to. "We take oaths of canonical obedience. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the head of our Church. If he said to me, 'Hardy, I think you should go,' I would go. I would not even question it."

The latest manoeuvring indicates that the battle at Lincoln is far from won. It began with a loss-making exhibition in Australia of the cathedral's Magna Carta and culminated when the dean was cleared of sexual misconduct with a former verger, Verity Freestone, last year.

Credo

We must learn why we cannot know His ways

Dan Cohn-Sherbok

Next week Jews throughout the world will observe the Ninth of Av (Tishah B'Av). This was the day when the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the Temple in 586 BC and the Roman general Titus devastated the Second Temple in 70 AD.

As a sign of mourning, Jews are obliged to fast the entire day. Inevitably, in a post-Holocaust world, those catastrophes of long ago have become symbolic of the destruction of six million Jews during the Nazi era. Tishah B'Av has thereby come to represent both ancient and modern calamities that have befallen the Jewish community.

While pious Jews have remained faithful to the belief in an all-powerful and compassionate God despite such tragedies, many Jews in the modern world have found it impossible to believe in a God of mercy. For those individuals Tishah B'Av has come to take on a new significance: it highlights the absence of God, rather than His abiding presence in the face of massacre and death. As the Jewish death-of-God theologian Richard Rubenstein has remarked: "When I say we live in the time of the death of God, I mean that the thread uniting God and man, Heaven and earth, has been broken."

The Jewish community is thus polarised between believers and unbelievers, all of whom are struggling to make sense of the calamitous history of the nation. Is there a solution to this dilemma? Throughout Jewish history there has been a recognition that there is no means by which human beings can understand the true nature of divine reality: this insight should pave the way to a revitalised theology of Judaism.

From biblical times there has been a conscious awareness that there is a fundamental distinction between God as He is in Himself and human conceptions of the divine. Scripture, for example, frequently cautions against describing God anthropomorphically. In rabbinic literature there are comparable passages which suggest that human beings should refrain from attempting to depict God's nature.

In a similar vein, medieval Jewish philosophers such as Moses Maimonides argued that the ascription to God of positive attributes is a form of idolatry. In his view, positive attributes are only admissible if they are understood as referring to God's acts. Attributes that refer to his nature, however, are only permissible if they are applied negatively. Thus one cannot say what God is; one can only say what He is not.

Like those Jewish philosophers, Jewish mystics advocated a theory of negation in describing God. For these writers, the divine is revealed through the powers which emanate from him. Yet God as He is in Himself is the Ayn Sof (infinite) which is beyond human comprehension. Thus the greatest work of medieval Jewish mysticism, the Zohar, asserts that the Ayn Sof is incomprehensible. In that spirit the 18th-century scholar the Vilna Gaon stated that one can say so little about the Ayn Sof that one should not even give it the name Ayn Sof.

That recognition of the limits of human understanding can provide a basis for confronting the disasters that have befallen the Jewish people in ancient and modern times. God must not be reduced to human categories and then dismissed as irrelevant in the face of the horrors that have occurred to the Jewish community. Rather, we must acknowledge our incapacity to understand God's ways.

Tishah B'Av symbolises the tragic past of the nation, yet it should also call us to a recognition of human limitation in the presence of the holy. The Zohar tells of Elijah's supplication to God. "Lord of the Universe," he prayed, "You are higher than the highest. You are above all mysteries. No thought can grasp you at all."

☐ *Rabbi Professor Dan Cohn-Sherbok teaches Jewish theology at the University of Kent and is a visiting professor at the Universities of Middlesex and Wales*

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£2,000-a-day fee plan for civil courts is dropped

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

A PLAN to impose pay-as-you-go court fees, in which people bringing claims in the civil courts would pay a daily hearing fee, has been shelved. It could have involved daily hearing fees of £2,000 in the High Court and £800 in county court.

The aim was to raise fees to a level at which the courts were self-financing. However, the plan was criticised as being likely to deter people from bringing claims and pursuing their rights.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, is committed to changing the present system, which is based on an "entry" fee imposed for issuing proceedings, but takes no account of the length of a case. Michael Huebner, chief executive of the Court Service, the agency that runs all civil and criminal courts in England and Wales, said that less radical proposals would now be brought forward.

Mr Huebner said that the need for a big increase in fees had been reduced after standard fees went up last autumn and brought in more funds than expected. There was a still a shortfall, however. The full cost of the civil courts was some £300 million a year, while £245 million was recouped in court fees.

"The Lord Chancellor is likely to contemplate more modest proposals, possibly with some restructuring ... but it would not be as fundamental," Mr Huebner said. "If we lose business because fees go up, that is a failing of the civil justice system."

A survey in the Court Service's annual report indicates that most courts in England and Wales are now meeting their targets on waiting times and on the speed with which they commit defendants for trial, although some are still falling well short.

The courts' efficiency was tested against performance targets and the results, published for the first time yesterday, may eventually develop into a league table for the justice system.

Among the Crown Courts, Salisbury is the worst offender with only 48.8 per cent of defendants committed for trial within 16 weeks (instead of the 70 per cent target). It also has one of the highest average waiting times for defendants on bail, 21.8 weeks, and a high average waiting time for defendants in custody, of 16.4 weeks.

Liverpool is another poor performer with only 48.8 per cent of defendants committed for trial within the 16-week waiting time. Liverpool also scores badly in having one of the highest waiting times for defendants on bail, 22.4 weeks, almost double many of the other courts.

The figures partly reflect the courts' workload, with the smaller, less busy courts finding it easier to meet targets.

Mr Huebner said that the figures had to be treated with caution because there were often reasons why averages appeared to be particularly low. "However, we do think it right to publish the figures and show how courts are doing in meeting their targets."

The report also shows that the backlog of work in the criminal courts has dropped to its lowest level in nearly a decade, from 34,000 about 18 months ago to 23,000 now.

Sophie's parents call for closer watch on paedophiles

By a Staff Reporter

DAVE KENDALL

Julie and Christopher Hook yesterday. They called for posters of paedophiles to go on public display

THE parents of the murdered schoolgirl Sophie Hook said yesterday that her killer had been "a timebomb waiting to go off". Christopher Hook, 38, said: "The unfortunate thing for us, and particularly for Sophie, was that she was the trigger for that timebomb and it didn't need to be like that."

The Hooks, from Great Budworth, Cheshire, were speaking publicly for the first time since their daughter's killer, Howard Hughes, was jailed for life by Chester Crown Court for abducting her from a tent in her uncle's garden and raping her before strangling her and throwing her body into the sea. Mr Hook said that he and his wife, Julie, 35, constantly asked themselves the question: "Why Sophie? Why us?"

On Thursday police disclosed that they had been "keeping a close eye" on Hughes for 16 years and that he had been accused of assaulting several young girls and teenagers in the three years preceding Sophie's murder. Mr Hook said he felt strongly that the Home Office's proposals for a paedophile register should be put in place and he advocated displaying posters of offenders in their home towns.

"Several months after it happened I was told that Hughes was a timebomb waiting to go off. I firmly believe the Home Secretary's proposals going through currently should be extended. I believe that a statutory register of convicted paedophiles should be extended. Allowing the authorities to display posters of offenders within the community is one possible step forward."

He also said that, in Hughes's case, life should mean life. "An innocent life has been destroyed. We are left with a life sentence ourselves."

Mrs Hook said that Sophie had enriched their lives. "She was bright, vivacious, full of fun, extremely caring and very loving. This is how we remember her."

The Hooks have three other children, Jemma, 10, Joseph, 6, and Ellie, a toddler. "Naturally, all the children have been affected by the loss of Sophie, each in their own way," Mrs Hook said. "They continue to include her in whatever they do."

Mr Hook explained their decision to take the children abroad for the duration of the trial: "Our children have been, and always will be, our prime concern and their needs remain our priority."

Sophie's uncle, Danny Jones, from whose garden she disappeared, had been seen in court during the trial and cried at the guilty verdict. Mr Hook said that he and his wife had been represented in court by members of both families and he felt that was sufficient.

Asked how her family had coped with their loss over the past 12 months, Mrs Hook said: "The deep pain and grief we have felt and will continue to feel is beyond words. We have somehow coped because we have every reason to believe that Sophie never knew of her suffering."

They felt no sense of victory at seeing Hughes jailed. Mr Hook said the verdict was "what we expected".

Mrs Hook's voice wavered as she spoke of the approaching anniversary of Sophie's death, on July 30. "Our 'if onlys' will come flooding back in force, not that they ever go away. If only I hadn't agreed that the girls could stay. If only the tent had not been bought. If only it had been raining. They will go on and on for ever. Anniversaries are painful, but so is every other day."

Police said that the couple had agreed to speak yesterday on the condition that the media now left them alone.

£3m for church bells to ring in millennium

A PROJECT to restore or replace more than 100 church bells across the country to ring in the millennium has been promised £3 million (Peter Foster writes).

The Millennium Commission has earmarked the grant after an application by the Central Council of Bellringers. The scheme, which will cost a total of £6 million, will involve hanging new bells and restoring others that have long been silent. Lin Foxhall Forbes, an archaeologist, who managed the application to the commission, said: "Parishes have been faced with difficult choices as congregations dwindle and funds are scarce. If you have to choose between patching a roof or restoring the bells there is little option but to repair the roof.

"Bells signify so many things: a wedding; the new year; VE-Day; the coming of war."

Funds will be allocated by the council to parishes and other groups, who are expected to raise 50 per cent of restoration costs. The council has already received more than 160 applications for funds.

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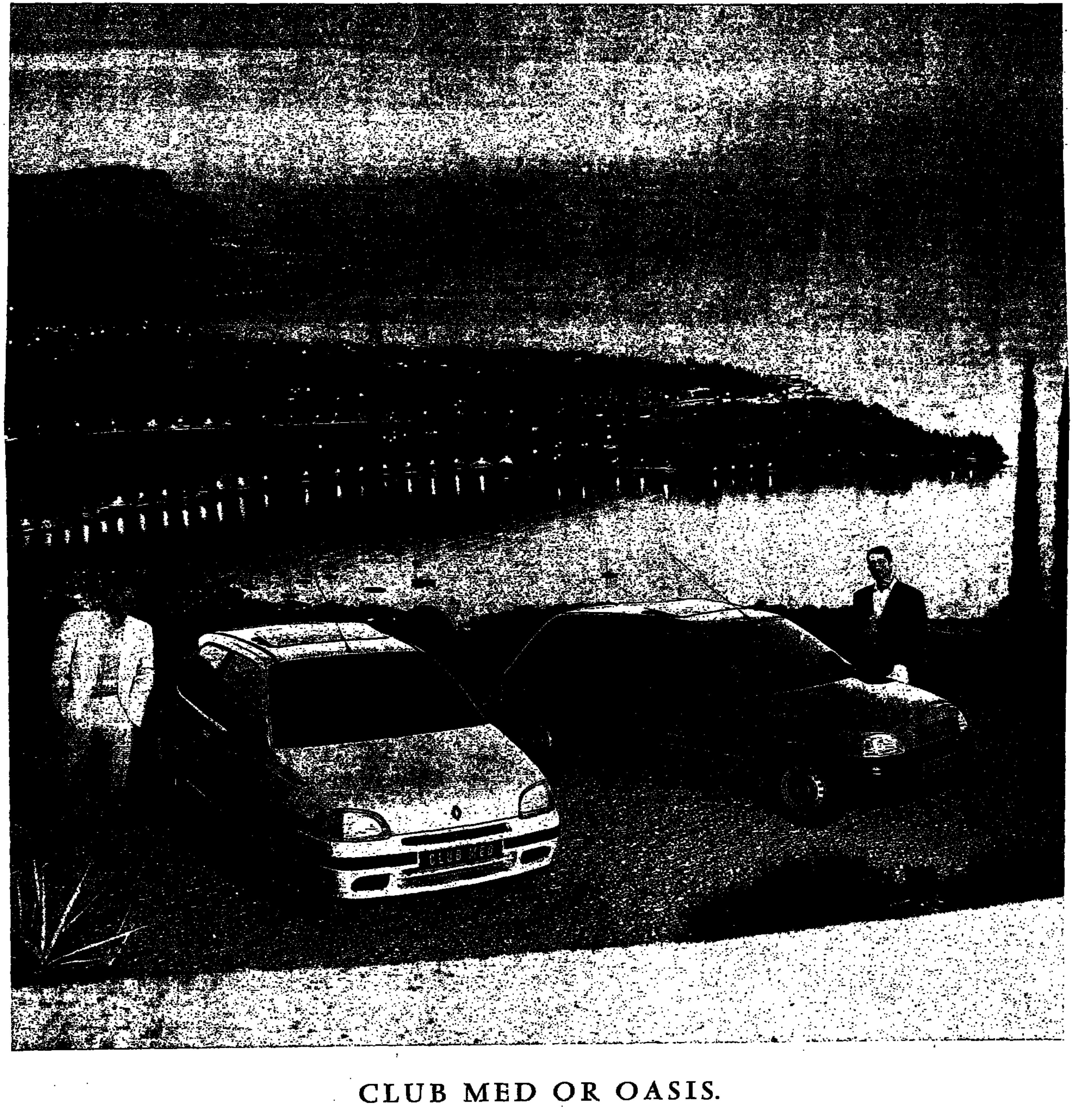

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Karadzic agrees to give up all powers

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN SARAJEVO

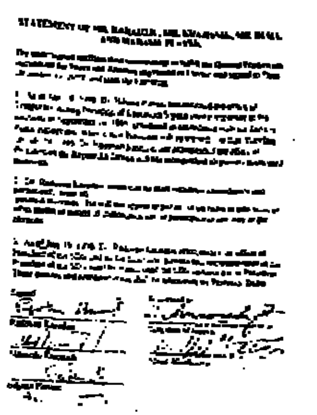
THE Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, indicted as a war criminal, resigned yesterday from all public office after a marathon ten-hour diplomatic battle between Richard Holbrooke, the American envoy, and Serb leaders in Belgrade. After months of failed efforts by the European Community, his resignation was a victory for American diplomacy in the Balkans and a breakthrough in the logjam threatening postwar elections in Bosnia.

Mr Holbrooke announced that Dr Karadzic had resigned with immediate effect as president of the Bosnian Serb Republic and head of the ruling Serb Democratic Party (SDS) in a live CNN interview, minutes before a news conference in the Serbian capital.

"As of today ... Dr Karadzic has relinquished the office of president of the [Bosnian] Serb Republic and all powers associated therewith and states he shall withdraw immediately and permanently from all political activity," Mr Holbrooke said. "He will not appear in public, on radio, or on television or other media and means of communication, or participate in any way in the elections. As of today, Dr Karadzic relinquishes the presidency of the SDS and all powers and responsibilities."

However, Mr Holbrooke urged caution over the deal, which made no mention of General Ratko Mladic, commander of the Bosnian Serb Army and also indicted as a war criminal, and failed to secure the extradition of either man.

"It falls short of our goals," Mr Holbrooke said later. "Indicted war criminals should be at The Hague to face trial ... but this is a long and very bumpy road."



The statement signed by Karadzic yesterday

Dr Karadzic signed the agreement in Pale, his fiefdom east of Sarajevo. Excluded from the negotiations in Belgrade as the result of his indictment and the international warrant issued for his arrest, the document was faxed to him. At his elbow stood Jovica Stanisic, security chief to President Milosevic of Serbia, who was present to ensure his compliance.

Dr Karadzic was replaced as the head of the SDS by Aleksa Buha, the Bosnian Serb Foreign Minister. Biljana Plavsic, another hardline nationalist to whom Dr Karadzic had earlier ceded "executive powers" to fend off his own political demise, is to remain acting president.

Mr Holbrooke, recalled from his new civilian job as a Wall Street investment banker, had flown to Belgrade to enforce the shaky Dayton peace deal he secured last November after months of European efforts had failed to secure Dr Karadzic's removal. Bosnian Muslims had threatened to boycott the polls, scheduled for September 14, if Dr Karadzic remained on the political stage.

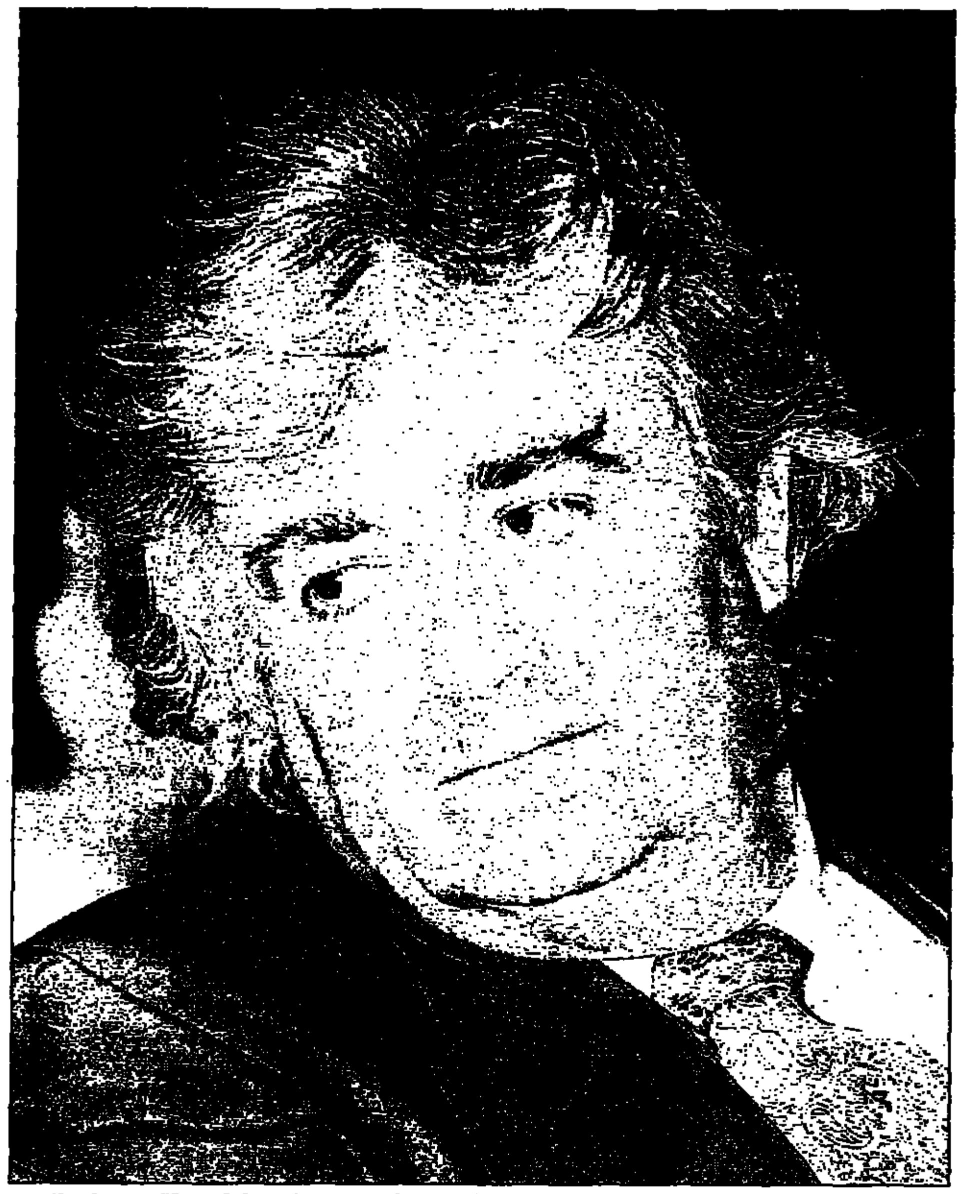
Mr Holbrooke produced the deal after "acrimonious" negotiations with President Milosevic, during which documents were shuttled overnight between Belgrade and Pale. Only the previous day he had cautioned that the talks with Mr Milosevic were punishing and that he doubted whether he could achieve a prompt dispatch of Dr Karadzic to political obscurity.

However, yesterday he was clearly enjoying his successful return to international trouble-shooting. "These were very tough negotiations," he said. "Everyone understood that, if we didn't get results, there would be very serious consequences ... but I believe we have a good chance of making this work."

Aware, though, that this was far from a triumph, he conceded: "The elections will be flawed ... if this is implemented, this is a very big step towards successful elections. But there are no guarantees."

It remains unclear exactly what Mr Milosevic received in return, but some political analysts believe he demanded economic aid and guarantees that the strategic land corridor through Brcko, in northern Bosnia, should remain in Bosnian Serb control. Under the Dayton agreement, possession of Brcko should be settled through arbitration.

Although the removal of Dr Karadzic removes the biggest obstacle to September's elections, he remains free to participate in the inner councils of his hardline allies in Pale. Even if they were to ostracise him, Mr Buha, Mrs Plavsic and Momcilo Krajisnik, Speaker of the Bosnian Serb parliament, are politicians from the same mould.



Radovan Karadzic, who signed away his authority under American pressure

Moreover, the liberty of Dr Karadzic and General Mladic casts shadows over the prospects for peace. The latter remains in control of the Bosnian Serb Army and is regarded by most Bosnian Serbs as a hero who saved them, as they see it, from an Islamic threat.

The international community has so far been reluctant to attempt any arrest of the two men because of the complicated military, political and legal considerations involved, preferring instead to exert pressure on President Milosevic to have them extradited for trial in The Hague.

Lure of Chinese trade eclipses frontier fears

James Pringle, *in a second report from the Sino-Russian border, finds market forces hard at work in Suifenhe despite lingering political tensions*

MISHA, Sasha and Kuliya, tough Russian truck drivers in their late forties who ply between this Chinese border town in eastern Heilongjiang province and the Russian Far East, were adamant as they stood beside their giant vehicles on the Chinese side of the border that no Russian territory should be handed over to China.

"Russian blood was spilt winning this land," said Sasha — the three gave only their first names — who claimed he had been a young border guard in 1969 when Russia and China almost went to war over a marshy island in the Ussuri river to the north of here. "My grandfather fought for this soil and we must not give back even a square yard."

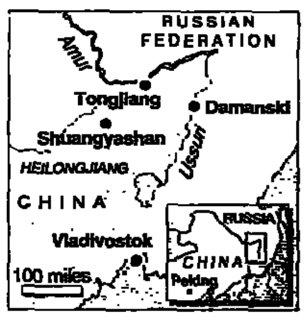
The drivers, whose comments about Chinese were as robust as their remarks about Russian customs officials, seemed to represent an older Russia, but Tanya Ivanova, 21, a Russian girl from Khabarovsk who looked more like a model than what she really is — a sausage-maker and trader — is another: a post-Soviet woman.

Browsing for clothes in Suifenhe market with her Chinese joint-venture partner, Miss Ivanova appeared to have an easygoing relationship with Chinese traders, and spoke out freely on politics. Besides pork for the sausage-making plant she represents, she was buying vegetables, toys and building materials to sell in Russia — and clothes for herself. She offered to trade timber, frozen fish, fertiliser, copper and scrap metal from the Amur river region around Khabarovsk.

The atmosphere in the market at Suifenhe, a town established originally when Russia built the South Manchurian Railway through here in 1903 as the vital final link of the Trans-Siberian Railway, was businesslike but friendly as Russian and Chinese traders bargained. Residents said that when trade first resumed in 1991, there were sometimes fights over shoddy goods, but now there are quality control officials at customs on both sides of the frontier. "We want to ensure only high-quality goods pass into Russia," said Fan Ziyaoi, a quarantine officer on the Chinese side.

More than 1,200 companies that lacked proper qualifications were shut down in the earlier sweep, while those with sound business practices have established direct trade ties with Russian companies.

The Russian Far East Fleet, now largely rusting, is based at Vladivostok, chief city of the Russian Maritime Province. Its provocative name means, to the annoyance of the Chinese, Ruler of the East. Vladivostok is also the base of the hardline Russian Maritime Province's Governor, Vitali Nazdratenko, who believes, like the truckers, that even the 5.8 square miles of land already demarcated should not be handed back to China.



The 1991 deal was reached by "discredited politicians such as Mikhail Gorbachev and Eduard Shevardnadze, the latter not even Russian", locals say.

"[President] Yeltsin has to be careful because giving up Russian land is an emotional issue among some Russian nationalists here," whispered one Russian businessman in Suifenhe market. "It could even lead to his assassination."

How failed poet nurtured grudge against Sarajevo

BY DESSA TREVISAN AND MICHAEL DYNES

HAD Radovan Karadzic succeeded in becoming a member of the Bosnian Writers' Union, his fate might have been different — and with it the history of Bosnia.

A Bosnian writer recalls Dr Karadzic as a rather ludicrous figure on the fringe of the writers' union. Former friends say that he was a laughing stock in an atmosphere where jokes and bonhomie were part of Sarajevo intellectual life.

He would later claim he was discriminated against as a Serb. In fact, he wrote only one or two books of children's poetry and he failed to qualify for membership. That was long ago, but his resentment appears to have festered. Even after he rose to fame, he boasted about his poetry and would recite his work to Western reporters.

Even now that he has resigned as president of the Bosnian Serb Republic and head of the Serb Democratic Party (SDS), he cannot be discounted. Dr Karadzic has the staying power of a Saddam Hussein and few expect him to relinquish his ability to pull strings. The seat of power he has vacated has been filled by nationalist hardliners as committed as he to the separatist nationalism that sparked the war and the demise of the Dayton accords.

Western diplomats feared that Dr Karadzic would attempt to turn the September poll into a referendum on his own popularity. That danger has now been removed. But suspicions are already growing that there may have been a secret deal under which Dr Karadzic agreed to shut up in public provided an international court did not get the chance to shut him up in jail.

Dr Karadzic may be reviled around the world as the architect of "ethnic cleansing". But among his people he is still seen as the man who saved the Bosnian Serbs from genocide, and they will not give him up without a fight.

Nevertheless, time would appear to be running out for him and General Ratko Mladic, two of the world's most notorious fugitives. Despite their brazen behaviour in the Serb statelet, both fear they could be the target of a surprise Nato-led commando raid. There are many more in Pale, their capital, not to mention Belgrade, who have much to fear from them being brought to The Hague to give evidence.

Bonn offers Bosnians cash incentives to return home

FROM MICHAEL KALLENBACH IN BONN

GERMANY, by far the largest recipient of refugees in Europe, is trying to ease the repatriation of the 320,000 Bosnians who fled to this country and has launched a programme to meet the costs of their fares home.

Under the scheme, which will take effect in the coming weeks, the Government will pick up the cost of a trip home in a variety of ways — by air, bus, train and even by car.

The Family Ministry said it had a budget of DM7.4 million (£3.3 million) for this year which would be used to pay not only fares home, but also for transport of personal belongings. Refugees returning home will no longer be required to sign a declaration promising never to return as asylum-seekers.

The move was welcomed yesterday by Judith Kumin, of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Germany, who called it "an important step". However, in a recent interview with *Die Zeit*, she warned Germany that the repatriation exercise would take at least two years and some people would stay behind. These included those who had been psychologically affected by the civil war, and others who might want to complete their job training.

About half of all Bosnian refugees outside the former Yugoslavia are in Germany. Most have been kept in refugee housing estates on the outskirts of cities. German law forbids them from seeking employment.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Yangtze alert as flood toll reaches 716

FLOODS affecting central and southern China have now killed 716 people (James Pringle writes). Thousands of troops were piling up sacks of rice yesterday to reinforce dykes as the Yangtze river threatened to burst its banks.

Two million people have been forced to leave their homes, and 2.5 million acres of crops have been destroyed, Chinese officials said.

Triple blast

Moscow: Three bombs exploded almost simultaneously in buildings belonging to law and order organisations in Kirghizia's capital, Bishkek, but there were no injuries, Tass reported. *(Reuter)*

Doctors quizzed

Wuppertal: German prosecutors are investigating 1,860 doctors and health executives from 418 hospitals on suspicion of accepting £14 million in bribes to buy equipment, including heart valves. *(Reuter)*

Suu Kyi tribute

Rangoon: Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's democracy leader, made a low-key appearance at an official Martyrs' Day ceremony, placing flowers at her father's tomb at the Martyrs' Mausoleum. *(Reuter)*

Perfect pitch

Warsaw: Polish divers exploring the 18th-century wreck of the English *General Carleton of Whitby* under the Baltic found a legible book and other relics well preserved by the vessel's cargo of tar. *(Reuter)*

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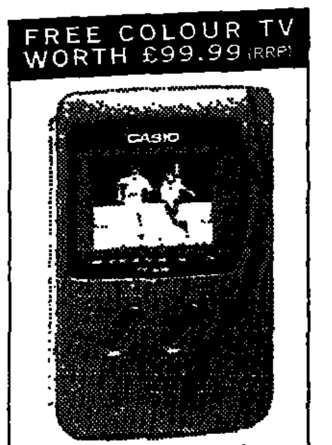

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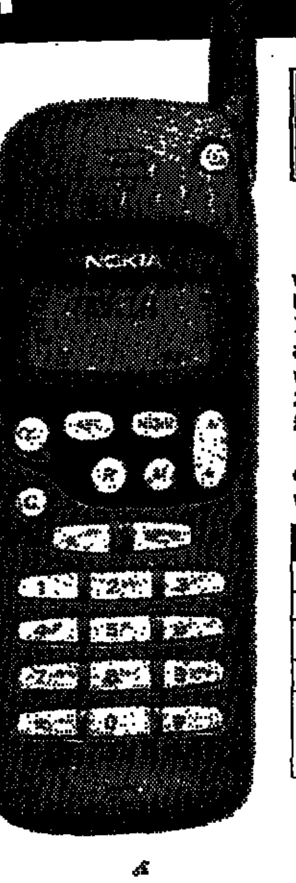

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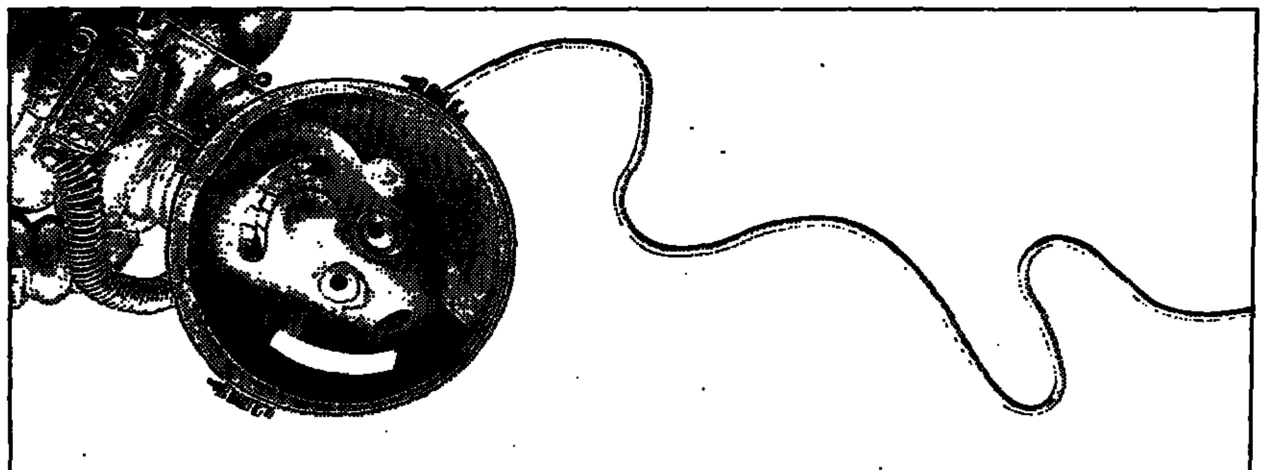

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Top fashion photographer and former Warhol collaborator among the dead

Blast brings brutal end to romantic mission

By James Bone in New York and Paul Wilkinson

A MAN carrying a diamond engagement ring for a romantic rendezvous in Paris, a top fashion photographer, an Upper East Side socialite, an ice hockey star, an interior designer who was once Andy Warhol's lover — all were united in tragedy by the crash of Flight 800.

The 230 passengers lost in the waters off Long Island included Boy Scouts and businessmen, holidaymakers and honeymooners, wine buffs and jetsetters.

THE VICTIMS

Perhaps the most prominent was Jed Johnson, 47, one of New York's best known interior decorators, who was on his way to Paris to remodel the offices of Yves Saint Laurent, the couturier.

With no formal training, Mr Johnson had started out by mopping floors at Andy Warhol's studio, the Factory, where he became romantically involved with the founder of Pop Art for the best part of a decade.

Mr Johnson worked with Warhol on some of his most famous films, and directed the cult classic *Bad*. Drawing on the styles that he had seen in the famous European houses he visited with the artist, he redesigned Warhol's townhouse on Manhattan's Upper East Side, in which he later lived.

Other clients included not only Yves Saint Laurent but also Mick Jagger, the lead singer of the Rolling Stones, and his wife Jerry Hall, the model, the film director Mike Nichols and the Hollywood star Richard Gere.

Another of his customers, Barbaralee Diamondstein-Spielvogel, said of Mr Johnson: "He had uncommon grace." Also on board Flight 800 was Rico Puhlmann, 62, the veteran fashion photographer, who had been travelling to Paris to do a photo-shoot.

The Berlin-born Mr Puhlmann, 62, was a child movie star who moved to New York as a photographer in the early 1970s and went on to work for the world's top fashion magazines. His pictures adorned the cover of *Harper's Bazaar* more than 125 times.

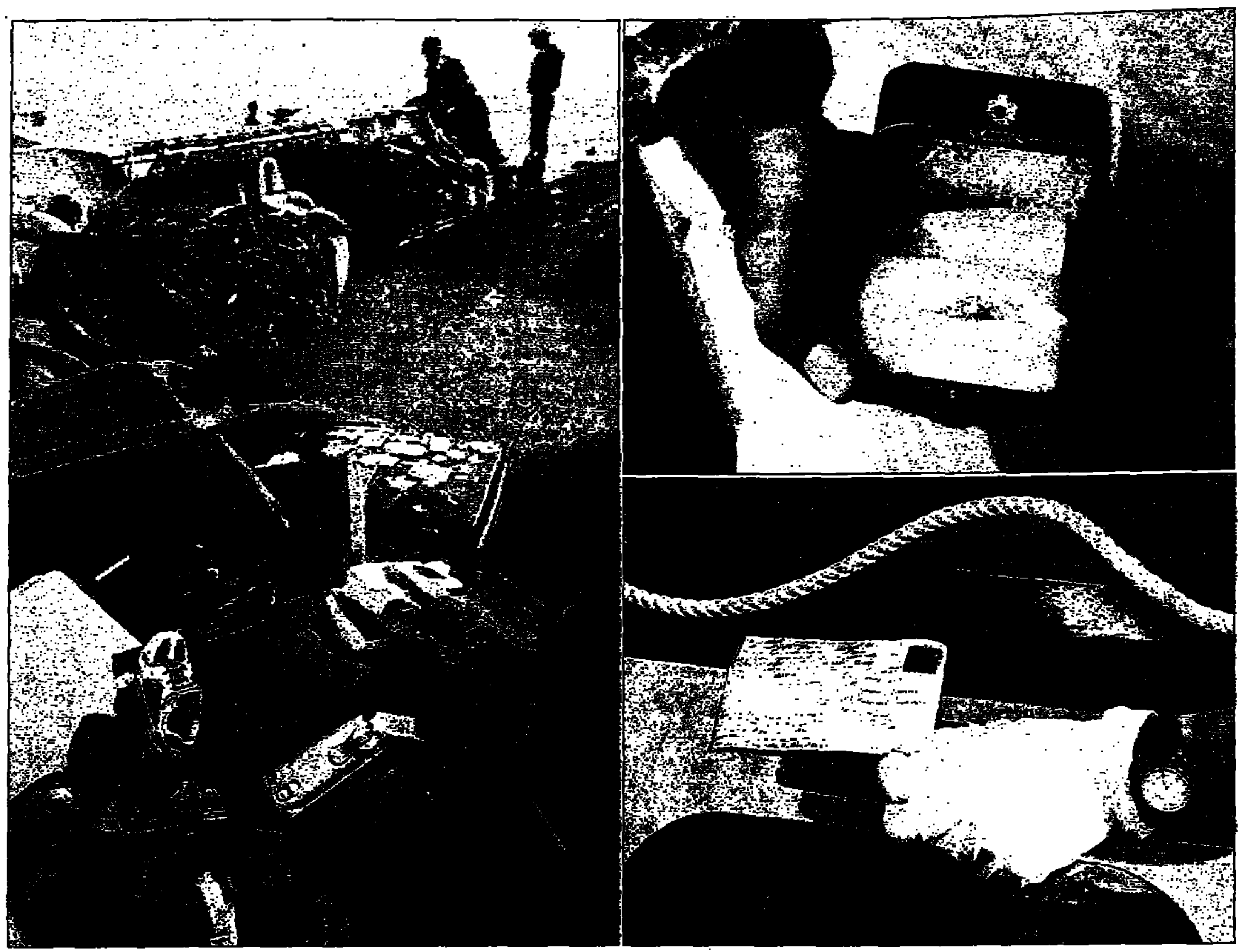
Eileen Ford, of the Ford Model Agency, called him a photographer of "outstanding style, simplicity and taste, and perhaps the last of the great gentleman photographers".

The renowned jazz saxophonist and composer Wayne Shorter, who was on tour in Italy, lost his wife, Ana Maria Shorter, and the jazz singer Jon Lucien lost his daughter, Dalila.

Other passengers included Judith Connelly Delourvrier, an Upper East Side philanthropist who once worked as assistant to the head of Impressionist art at Sotheby's; Jack O'Hara, an Emmy-winning television producer on his way to oversee coverage of the Tour de France; and Michel Breistroff, a member of the French national ice hockey team.

The town of Montoursville, Pennsylvania, remained in mourning for the death of 16 school pupils and five teachers who had been on their way to study French.

Also presumed dead were a couple of elderly wine enthusiasts making a long-awaited trip to France's vineyards, a pair of Boy Scouts and their families from Alabama, and two Italian newlywed couples who had been honeymooning in America and had been booked on an earlier flight to Rome but lost their seats.



Rescue workers on the US Coast Guard cutter *Juniper* load luggage from Flight 800 picked up from the sea off Long Island. Among personal effects recovered were a diamond engagement ring and a postcard. Salvage operators believe they would soon find the plane's flight recorder

Andrew Krukar, 40, of Bridgewater, Connecticut, was carrying a diamond engagement ring in his pocket so that he could propose to his girlfriend in Paris when she joined him at the end of a business trip.

Another romance that ended in tragedy was the tale of two of the 35 TWA staff who were lost in the disaster. Jacques and Connie Charbonnier fell in love as flight attendants 21 years ago and tried to work the New York-Paris route together as much as possible, up to five times a month. "That was their route. Flight 800," one friend said.

Perhaps the luckiest person to hold a ticket on Flight 800 was Eileen Rence, of Applegate, Wisconsin. Ms Rence, who teaches English as a second language and was on her way to visit her daughter in Paris, missed the plane because her connecting flight from Chicago was delayed for four hours by thunderstorms.

She arrived at New York's Kennedy Airport 15 minutes before the TWA flight left, but airline officials refused to allow her on to the plane. "I guess I cheated the grim reaper," she said.

After showing reporters her ticket for Flight 800, Ms Rence boarded a later TWA plane for Paris, apparently undeterred by her lucky escape. "I figure, what's the chance of this happening twice?," she said.

Christine Bailey, the British-born woman who died on the flight, was returning from her first visit to America to see her brother, Ian.

The mother of four, originally from Halifax, West Yorkshire, had flown to California with her second husband Pietro D'Iorio. He was also killed. The couple, who met in Yorkshire, had run their own restaurant in Prato, near Florence, for the past 11 years.

> ‘The emergency line was useless. How can an airline not know the names of the passengers?’

Yesterday her relatives in Halifax were asking why it had taken the authorities 14 hours to confirm that Mrs Bailey, 45, had been on the flight.

Her brother, John, told of the anxious wait as his mother, Emma, 66, phoned the Paris emergency helpline number to discover whether she was a victim of the disaster.

"We were hoping she had managed to get the flight to Amsterdam. We phoned the emergency telephone number in Paris, but the lines were jammed all day. Mum finally got through but they said they had no names of who got on board, which made things even worse. All we wanted was a yes or no, but the agony of not knowing just went on. The emergency line was useless. How can an airline not know the names of the passengers on board?"

It was 14 hours before Mrs Bailey's daughter, Chelsea, 21, who lives with her in Italy, phoned from Prato to say that airport officials in Rome had confirmed her mother and stepfather were dead.

Mrs Bailey met her second husband in the Cherry Tree Italian restaurant in Halifax when she took a job as a waitress after her first marriage ended. When Signor D'Iorio moved back to his home town she emigrated with him to work as a waitress in his restaurant.

First tests find no traces of explosive

By James Bone

AS NAVY divers searched for the two "black boxes" from Flight 800 in the waters off Long Island, the first post-mortem examinations revealed that some of the victims had drowned.

Charles Wetli, the Suffolk County medical examiner, said some of the bodies retrieved by rescuers had water in their lungs, indicating that they had still been breathing when the aircraft hit the Atlantic.

He dismissed speculation, however, that they might have been trapped in the Boeing 744 as it sank 120ft to the seabed. Instead, they were likely to have been unconscious on impact and already near death. Post-mortem examinations revealed that most passengers had died from "massive blunt force" either from the collision with objects in the cabin or from the rapid deceleration. "Death literally occurred in a heartbeat," Dr Wetli said.

CLUES

Many of the victims suffered "chemical burns", but the first 20 autopsies yielded no evidence of any explosives or any shrapnel that would indicate a bomb.

With 140 bodies recovered, many badly charred or dismembered, corpses were being stored in a refrigerated lorry before being examined. Bodies are weighed, photographed, X-rayed, then placed on a stainless steel table for a two-hour post mortem.

As dozens of Coast Guard vessels continued to haul wreckage from the surface, divers scoured the seabed for the Boeing 747's cockpit voice recorder and flight data recorder. The two black boxes, which start to emit a "pinging" sound on contact with water, are expected to yield information into the cause of the crash.

The US Navy had a submarine MR2 Remote Operating Vehicle standing by in case the boxes lay too deep to be retrieved by divers.

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Congress weighs new airport curbs while school grieves for lost pupils

US security under fire as sabotage suspicion grows

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

WITH fears rising that sabotage destroyed TWA Flight 800, attention focused yesterday on America's continued lag in airport security despite the promise of improvements after Pan Am Flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie eight years ago.

At issue now is whether it was possible for terrorists to smuggle a bomb on board the TWA flight.

American airports are still open to unauthorised access, according to Mary Schiavo, a fierce critic of airline safety, who has just resigned in frustration as inspector-general of the Department of Transportation. She said her staff tested security at four of America's busiest airports and in 15 out of 20 attempts were able to enter secure areas unchallenged. When they repeated the exercise earlier this year, they breached security 40 per cent of the time.

Members of Congress summoned Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials for secret briefings on screening procedures for airline passengers and cargo. They were not encouraged.

"We're going to have to take steps that may be costly and may involve inconvenience," said Larry Pressler, Republican chairman of the Commerce Committee. Other senators said security may have to be tightened to the point where it disrupts airline schedules and leads to a steep increase in fares.

A presidential commission investigated the Lockerbie bombing, in which less than a pound of Semtex plastic explosive was hidden inside a cassette player in a suitcase that was transferred to the plane in Germany from a flight originating in Malta. The commission's recommendations were incorporated in the 1990 Aviation Security Improvement Act.

TERRORISM

Not all those recommendations have been implemented. Advanced bomb detectors have still not been installed at all high-risk airports. Machines to detect plastic and liquid explosives, which do not show up on older X-ray machines, are operating only in Atlanta for the Olympics and San Francisco. The advanced detectors cost about $1 million (£660,000) each.

In another area of vulnerability, mail and cargo still fly on international routes with little screening, according to airline safety experts.

The FAA requires all US international carriers to inspect carry-on bags and to match a passenger for each piece of checked luggage. TWA has not disclosed whether these precautions were carried out before Flight 800 took off from New York for Paris on Wednesday.

Suspicions of investigators have fallen on Athens, from where the jet flew earlier in the day to New York. Athens Airport is a notorious security blackspot and was briefly on an FAA warning list earlier this year. Cabins, cockpits and cargo bays of passenger jets flying to the US are checked before leaving an overseas airport, but it is not clear that they are routinely reinspected in the US. This raises the question of whether a bomb could have been carried on board by a passenger in Athens and left undetected.

The sister of one of the Lockerbie victims yesterday voiced concern that airlines are still not treating security as seriously as necessary.

Pamela Dix, a spokeswoman for the campaign group Disaster Action, whose brother Peter died on the Pan Am jet, said safety improvements appear to come about only in response to disasters.

☐ **New York:** Shockwaves from the crash reverberated yesterday around the courtroom here where the alleged mastermind of the World Trade Centre bombing is on trial for plotting to attack US airliners over Asia (James Bone writes). Jurors were told to avoid listening to or reading reports about the crash while considering the case against Ramzi Yousef, arrested in Pakistan last year after an international manhunt.

Captain and team 'highly experienced'

Snyder: had been with TWA for 32 years

Paris: The pilot and co-pilot of TWA Flight 800 were highly experienced and had both been with the airline for more than 30 years, TWA officials said yesterday. Captain Steven Snyder, 57, from Stratford, Connecticut, had 17,269 hours' flying time and 32 years with the company, while his co-pilot, Captain Ralph Kevorkian, 58, had 18,791 hours and 31 years.

They were accompanied by flight engineer Richard Campbell, 63, who had 30 years of service, and a trainee, Olivier Krick, 25. There were also 14 cabin crew on board. *(AFP)*

Friends and relatives of the pupils attending a memorial service at their school

The town's sign is draped in mourning

Teenagers mourned by friends

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN MONTOURSVILLE

MONTOURSVILLE, a town of 5,000 people in northeast Pennsylvania, yesterday mourned the deaths of 16 teenagers and five adult chaperones.

The 13 girls and three boys were seniors at Montoursville High School and belonged to the French Club. Most had saved up for the $1,500 (£960) eight-day trip to Paris that ended in tragedy.

Amanda Kerschner, 17, like many of her friends, worked part-time at a sandwich shop to put together the money for the trip — her first abroad and her first flight. Her boss, Charlie DeSanto, said: "She told some of the girls she was afraid and I told her: 'Don't worry about it. Nothing ever happens on these big planes'."

Teams of psychologists and crisis experts have descended on the town to help family and friends of the victims.

Chirac breaks news to tragic family

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

WHEN President Chirac expressed his shock at the deaths of the passengers aboard the Paris-bound TWA flight, he said he had "a special thought for the French victims, all the more because it turns out that I knew one of them".

He was referring to Rodolphe Merieux, 26, the grandson of Charles Merieux, founder of Merieux Laboratories, the prestigious medical research company, who was accompanying M Chirac on his African trip. The Merieux are no strangers to tragedy. Rodolphe was the younger brother of Christophe Merieux, whose kidnapping in 1975 at the age of nine gripped France. Christophe was eventually released three days later unharmed after his family paid a Fr20 million (£2.5 million) ransom against police advice.

Alain Merieux, Christophe's father, had appealed to the then Prime Minister, Jacques Chirac, not to intervene until his son was freed. The kidnappers were later caught. M Merieux, who has expressed gratitude to M Chirac whom he credited with saving his child's life, has since stood unsuccessfully as a candidate for M Chirac's RPR party. The President, who said he knew Rodolphe, broke the news of his death personally to Charles Merieux during his visit to the Congo.

☐ **Guitarist killed:** Marcel Dadi, the French guitarist who popularised country music in Europe, was among the victims. Dadi, 46, was on his way home from being honoured at the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dadi was one of the rare French guitarists to make his name both in America and Europe. He began his career in France in 1972, where he helped to spread the "flat-picking" style of Chet Atkins, the country guitarist.

Atkins was a personal friend of Dadi's, and the two played together several times at the Olympia in Paris. Dadi also performed once at the Grand Ole Opry country music show in Nashville. *(AP)*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jet failure blamed on pilots

Taipei: Taiwan's China Airlines acknowledged yesterday that errors by its pilots contributed to a 1994 crash that killed 264 people near Nagoya, Japan.

The airline stopped short of taking full responsibility, saying a final report issued yesterday by Japanese authorities also blamed design flaws in the highly automated Airbus A300-600 jetliner built by France's Airbus Industrie.

The report by Japan's Transport Ministry said pilot errors stalled the automatic piloting system before the aircraft could land. Only seven survived the crash. *(Reuter)*

Land clashes

Qaryout, West Bank: Jewish settlers broke a Palestinian woman's nose and clubbed two foreign cameramen in clashes with Arabs protesting against land seizures. *(Reuter)*

Children die

Dhaka: Fourteen children drowned in swirling flood waters that have inundated nearly one-third of Bangladesh, officials said. Planes are dropping food to marooned people. *(AP)*

Fuel tragedy

Lomé: An abandoned petrol tanker caught fire in Togo, killing 27 people north of here after villagers, one carrying an oil lamp, tried to scavenge some of its fuel. *(Reuter)*

Hutus killed

Gitega, Burundi: More than 300 civilians from Burundi's Hutu majority were killed during army offensives at the end of June in Gitega province, local sources said. *(AFP)*

Over-exposed

Cologne: Cathedral staff chased off Adam and Eve models posing at the high altar in fig leaves. A photographer released mice as a distraction, but his lighting gave him away. *(AFP)*

Guess who's not coming to dinner

FROM REUTER IN NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

AMERICAN Friends of the Mary Rose, one of the favourite charities of the Prince of Wales, threw a party for their royal admirer, but almost no one who was anyone came.

The event on Thursday night, while lacking in the expected host of paying guests, prominent members of Newport society and much of the media, went ahead as planned at Harbour Court, the summer home of the New York Yacht Club.

As most of the nation concentrated on the tragedy off Long Island, New York, guests at this Rhode Island haunt for the rich gathered under a smallish white tent for the formal dinner, where the Prince spoke briefly.

The charity sent out 3,500 invitations to what was billed as a gala fundraiser to help to restore the vessel, one of Henry VIII's warships that sank four centuries ago in a storm.

But only 225 paying guests attended. Ticket prices began at over £300 each.

Seat prices jump as 'Shaq' nets $120m

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

HE is 7ft 1in, weighs 320lb and wears size 22 shoes. Besides being one of America's top basketball centres, he is a rapper and film star. It was perhaps inevitable that when Shaquille "Shaq" O'Neal renegotiated his contract he would break records.

In the biggest individual salary deal in American sporting history, the 24-year-old Mr O'Neal has agreed to move from Florida's Orlando Magic to the Los Angeles Lakers for $120 million (£79 million), to be paid over seven years.

The deal gives the renowned Lakers an international star to replace the recently retired and HIV-positive Earvin "Magic" Johnson. Capping a frenzied week of trading for the National Basketball Association, it also puts the giant Mr O'Neal under huge pressure to perform.

Within hours of his move being announced on Thursday, the cheapest ticket prices at the Lakers' home arena shot up from $9 to $21. A new stadium is planned to capitalize on Mr O'Neal's popularity, wsth special boxes to accommodate the film stars who attend Lakers' games. Mr O'Neal appeared undaunted at a press conference. "Pressure is when you don't know where your next meal is coming from," he said.

Though not a record for annual sports earnings, the $120 million contract dwarfs the $30 million for which Michael Jordan recently rejoined the Chicago Bulls for another year. It guarantees Mr O'Neal $209,959 per game and $5,801 per minute on court. As an annual salary, it works out at roughly 100 times what President Clinton earns.

Born to an unwed, unemployed mother in New Jersey, "Shaq" now sends her 50 dozen red roses every Mother's Day and owns vast homes in Florida and LA's Manhattan beach. A tattoo on his right arm (with which he averaged 27 points a game for Orlando last season) reads: "The world is mine."

Los Angeles' excitement over its latest sporting recruit is hard to overstate. On the day of the Olympics' opening ceremony, his move took up five pages of the *Los Angeles Times* sports section.

Romania hails aid by Britain

FROM SEAN HILLEN IN BUCHAREST

THE achievements of British volunteers and aid agencies in Romania received high praise yesterday after talks in Bucharest between Baroness Chalker, Minister for Overseas Development, and President Iliescu of Romania.

The British Know-How Fund, a leading overseas development agency, has supported a wide range of successful initiatives in the financial, agricultural, educational and civic areas. Their successes are in contrast to European Commission projects which have borne the brunt of recent criticism in Romania.

Lady Chalker spent several days visiting orphanages and other health and social centres where thousands of British nurses, doctors and teachers have worked over the last six years improving the lives of orphans and children suffering from Aids.

Romania has one of the highest paediatric Aids populations in Europe, and the British group, the Romanian Orphans' Appeal, has been foremost in helping them.

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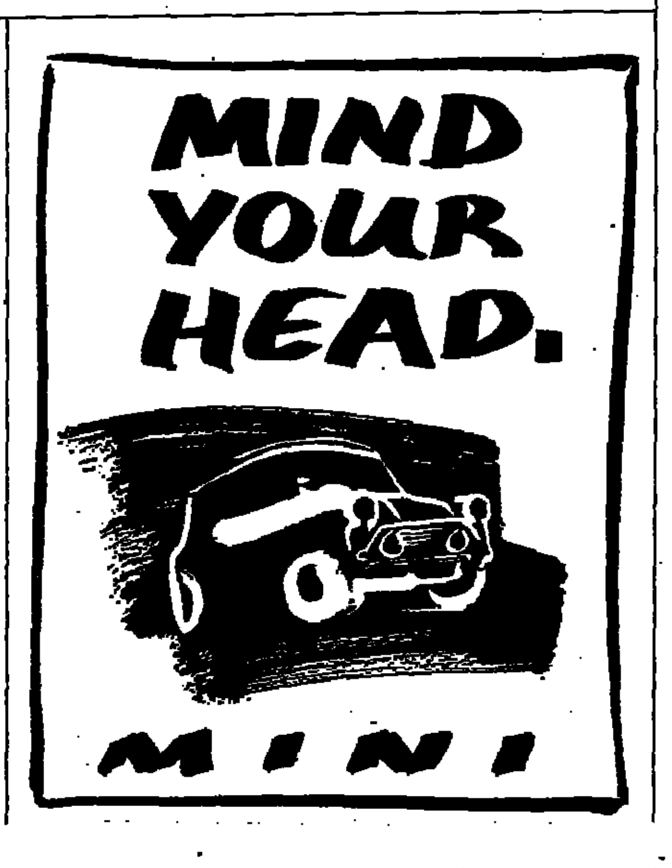

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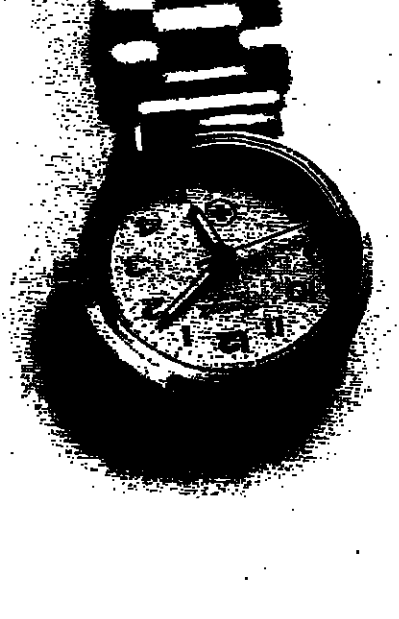


'I cannot turn myself from being the granddaughter of Il Duce into that of Adam Smith'

La Mussolini's party piece

NAPLES FILE

by RICHARD OWEN

IS THE granddaughter of Il Duce, Alessandra Mussolini, thinking about forming her own political party? Her Naples constituency is awash with rumours that she intends to stand for election as Mayor next year and use the post as a power base from which to regroup the Italian Right after its defeat in national elections in April.

La Mussolini is not shy of using her name to advance the causes in which she believes. To the despair of those who prefer neat labels, these combine "left-wing" concerns, such as the environment and women's rights, with the more familiar ideological baggage inherited from Italian Fascism.

"My grandfather opened the way for the modernisation of Italy," she says, while acknowledging that Fascism had its dark side. There are many on the Right who agree that the Fascists had to evolve into a more modern conservative party — the "post-Fascist" Alleanza Nazionale, which Signora Mussolini joined when it was founded by Gianfranco Fini four years ago — but think Il Duce's memory should not be buried altogether.

Signora Mussolini is also helped by her looks — the full figure, tumbling hair and almond eyes she has in common with her aunt, the actress Sophia Loren. Her image as a former model who bared all for *Playboy* has not always been an asset. As *L'Espresso* put it, she was once "better known for posing in lace than for the profundity of her thought".

But she is 33, and starting her second term as MP for Naples and Ischia, with a convincing majority. She is married to a policeman, and their daughter, Catrina, is nearly a year old.

Signora Mussolini acquired stature by sparring with Signor Fini after the Centre-Left's election victory, arguing that it was a mistake for the Alleanza Nazionale to align itself with Forza Italia, led by Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon who is on trial for corruption.

In his desire to be seen as "liberal", she says, Signor Fini has distanced the party too far from its origins. "I cannot turn from the granddaughter of Il Duce into the granddaughter of Adam Smith," she says. She is expected to challenge Antonio Bassolino, the popular left-wing Mayor of Naples, when his term expires next year. She admires him for regenerating the city and believes that, although she narrowly lost the mayoral battle to him last time, she could convince voters that she would further revitalise Naples.

MARK ELLIDGE

Signora Mussolini, who backs left-wing concerns and Fascist ideals, is trying to create a power base in Naples to rally the Italian Right

Little love lost for Nelson

THE story of Lord Nelson's affair with Emma Hamilton is being filmed in Naples, where they cavorted during the 1799 rebellion against the Bourbons. Donne nella Tempesta (*Women in the Storm*) *is being made jointly by RAI Television, French television and the BBC. It stars Daniel Day-Lewis as Nelson and Nastassja Kinski as Carolina of Habsburg, wife of Ferdinand IV. Although Naples values its links with Britain, it has less than fond memories of Nelson, who used his flagship,* HMS Vanguard, *to spirit Carolina and Ferdinand away to Palermo with Emma and her cuckolded husband, the British minister, Sir William Hamilton. Nelson later helped to put down the rebellion.*

Gay parade meets church backlash

ANTONIO BASSOLINO, the left-wing Mayor of Naples, has brought new life to the city's streets. But he went too far for the local church hierarchy when he recently sanctioned a demonstration by 15,000 gays, lesbians and transsexuals.

The protesters, in outrageous costumes, paraded from the station to the seafront, passing the town hall, where Signor Bassolino assured them that he stood for "respect for the right to make free life choices, and liberty for all". The leader of the national gay organisation, Franco Grillini, was delighted, observing that homosexuals had "struck a blow for tolerance in the heart of the macho South".

Less impressed was the Bishop of Naples, Michele Giordano, who said it was "absolutely unacceptable" to allow a show of strength by a section of society which "undermines the institution of the family". He added that, while the Church believed in "human understanding" for gays, it disapproved of a "progressive" leader such as Signor Bassolino contributing to "moral chaos". The regional secretary of the neo-Fascists applauded Bishop Giordano for standing firm against "this squalid, disturbing and vulgar spectacle".

French rail chairman quits post

FROM REUTER IN PARIS

THE chairman of France's SNCF state railways, Loïk Le Floch-Prigent, resigned yesterday after a court ruled he must remain in custody in a corruption investigation.

The Transport Ministry, which announced his resignation, is expected to name a replacement candidate in coming days, and his successor should be confirmed by the Cabinet on July 24.

M Le Floch-Prigent had just set about overhauling the SNCF after months sweetening the unions and 180,000 rail employees in the wake of a crippling 24-day strike at the end of last year. He joins a swelling list of at least a dozen industry chiefs under investigation.

□ Grasse: Gilles Mouillot, a municipal councillor and the son of the Mayor of Cannes, Michel Mouillot, was detained yesterday on suspicion of involvement in an alleged attempt by his father to extort money from a British gambling firm, judicial sources said. He is being held in Nice.

Juppé aid package to revive Corsica

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

THE French Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, has announced an aid package for Corsica totalling Fr3.5 billion (£448 million) over five years.

The package, which M Juppé described as being "without precedent", comprises significant tax incentives for local businesses and is the first step in a government initiative to revive the island's ailing economy. Economic aid forms the first part of a three-pronged policy on Corsica announced by President Chirac earlier in the week. The other aspects are a firm stance against terrorism and "positive dialogue".

On his first official visit to "the impossible island" since he assumed office, M Juppé appeared particularly determined to reassert French authority. "Corsica is part of the nation. Corsica is French," he told the regional parliament in Ajaccio, the main city.

He went on to lecture local authorities on their duty to uphold justice. "Your mission is to implement the law and carry out necessary investigations, whatever the nature of the crimes and whoever is suspected," he told about 200 police and gendarmes.

He also admonished magistrates in the northern town of Bastia that laws must be "applied with the same firmness, the same rigour, as in the rest of France".

Magistrates had complained earlier this year that "terrorists act with impunity" on the island, which has been racked by 20 years of bombings by separatists. Two weeks ago a leading nationalist was killed by a car bomb that marked an escalation in a long feud between warring separatist factions.

Among the measures to be introduced as part of the aid package are exemptions from corporation and income tax for five years for industrial, commercial and agricultural firms. Businesses in Corsica would also be exempt from local business tax up to a certain level. The plan is subject to approval by the European Union.

The island has seen revenues from tourism, its main industry, drop another 15 per cent this year on 1995, itself a poor season.

Spanish discover wall that kept Rome at bay

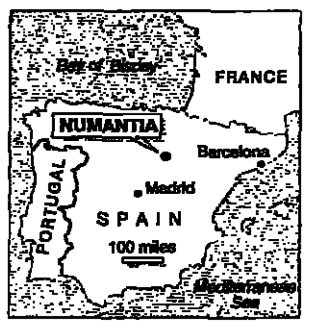
FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

SPANISH archaeologists have stumbled on the remains of a defensive wall more than 2,000 years old, used by the Celtiberians of the town of Numantia in their bloody resistance to the Romans.

The fragments of wall, discovered after extensive aerial photography with infra-red cameras, lie under farmland near the village of Garray, 3.75 miles to the north of the Castilian town of Soria. The wall was probably built around 140BC, when the Romans began their siege of Numantia, the small hill town which was the warlike Celtiberians' capital.

Although the Romans eventually won, the siege of Numantia lasted for six bitter years, pitting 60,000 well-armed legionaries against a mere 4,000 Celtiberians. In one of Rome's greatest military humiliations, 20,000 legionaries were taken prisoner in 137BC.

With its high casualty rate and a fierce, primitive enemy, the Numantine war was a running sore in Roman political life. The Spanish front was unpopular with metropolitan soldiers and the generals always met resistance in the Senate in Rome when raising levies for their campaign expenses.



The latest discovery of fragments of wall would suggest that the Celtiberians combined their legendary bravery with a surprisingly advanced grasp of military strategy. The characteristics of the stone, and the crude manner of arrangement, have convinced archaeologists the wall could not possibly have been built by the Romans themselves.

The existence of these previously unknown stone defences perhaps explains why the *Romans had to call for the* celebrated general, Scipio Africanus, to break a five-year deadlock in 134BC. Scipio took a year to wear the Numantines down, building a series of walls around the town to "lock in" the inhabitants. He finally won in 133 BC, razing the town and slaughtering its inhabitants.

The Roman chronicler Appian, in his record of the end of the siege, described how on the faces of the vanquished Celtiberians "were written rage and pain and exhaustion". They surrendered to *Scipio, "offering a strange and* horrible sight, their bodies dirty, squalid and stinking, their nails long, their hair unkempt and their dress repugnant".

The heroism of the ancient Celtiberians has an honoured place in the collective memory of Spaniards. Cervantes wrote a play called *The Siege of Numantia*, and it is not uncommon for trade unions today to threaten "Numantine resistance" against job cuts, redundancies and other modern forms of warfare.

Tamil suicide boat sinks navy ship in siege of lookout base

BY VIJITHA YAPA IN COLOMBO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A TAMIL rebel suicide boat packed with explosives rammed and sank a Sri Lankan naval ship with more than 40 sailors on board yesterday, miltary officials said.

The attack came after Tamil Tiger guerrillas overcame a commando force sent to break the rebel siege of a military base that is vital for controlling Sri Lanka's northeast coast.

In two days of fighting, the rebels claimed to have killed 400 soldiers. The military command in Colombo gave no casualties, but officials confirmed that hundreds of soldiers were feared dead in one of the biggest battles of the 13-year Tamil campaign.

The fate of the naval crew on the Chinese-built patrol boat was not immediately announced. It also was not clear how many rebels were in the suicide boat, which slipped through the ship's defences as it tried to fend off about a dozen rebel boats.

The sea battle off Mullaittivu, 175 miles northeast of the capital, Colombo, came on the second day of fighting surrounding a military base that serves as a lookout post to monitor rebel assault boats and ships.

The Mullaitivu camp is situated north of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) base called One Four, believed to be the command centre of the secessionist LTTE and a place used by their leader, Prabhakaran. If the casualty figures are correct, it will be the biggest setback to the army since the successful takeover of the Tamil-dominated Jaffna peninsula from the Tigers in the last month. The LTTE, which extracted heavy tolls from the people in the Northern province, promising to defend them, received a serious blow to their morale and pride when the army took over the area with very little resistance from them.

Unconfirmed reports said a number of Tiger cadres were trapped between the security forces in the Mullaitivu camp and the reinforcements, but that the rebels had taken away armoured vehicles, guns and ammunition.

States refuse to endorse Kohl's austerity budget

FROM MICHAEL KALLENBACH IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL'S latest austerity budget, designed to create an economic climate that will put Germany in the front row when it comes to qualifying for membership of a European single currency, was rejected yesterday by parliament's Uppper House.

During an emotional four-hour debate in the Bundesrat, the Chancellor's attempt to cut spending was rejected by a majority of the 16 *Länder* (states), causing the entire budget to be delayed for months while an arbitration committee steps in. Most of the speakers termed the proposals "unfair to the poor".

The budget will now go to the Bundestag, the Lower House, for another vote when it reconvenes in September after the summer recess.

With the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) holding the majority in the Bundesrat, they were able to block Herr Kohl's plans, which were largely intended to bring Germany's deficit down to 2.5 per cent of gross domestic product by 1999, within the Maastricht treaty criteria. The current deficit is 3.5 per cent.

However, Oskar Lafontaine, head of the SPD, denied it had organised a blockade. Rather, he said, it was the duty of the *Länder* to correct the situation. "We have the responsibility to seek social justice and fight unemployment, and that is what we will do," he said. "What's the point of grandparents working longer than they wish to, while their unemployed grandchildren are roaming the streets?"

The government plan involves wide-ranging cuts in public spending, amounting to DM50 billion (£21 billion) by next year, and was to include severe reductions in sick pay and unemployment protection. There were also proposals for cuts in federal spending in areas such as transport, agriculture, defence and science.

A package of five separate bills, introduced last month by Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, was passed without a problem when taken up by the Bundestag, where Herr Kohl's Centre-Right coalition enjoys a majority.

The Chancellor, who returned from a two-day official visit to Austria to listen to the Bundesrat debate, was clearly disappointed with its result. Herr Waigel, who shares Herr Kohl's goal of meeting the terms of the Maastricht treaty, accused the SPD of misusing its responsibility and majority in the Bundesrat.

Norbert Blüm, the Employment Minister, accused the SPD of doing nothing to produce new ideas to reduce social spending.

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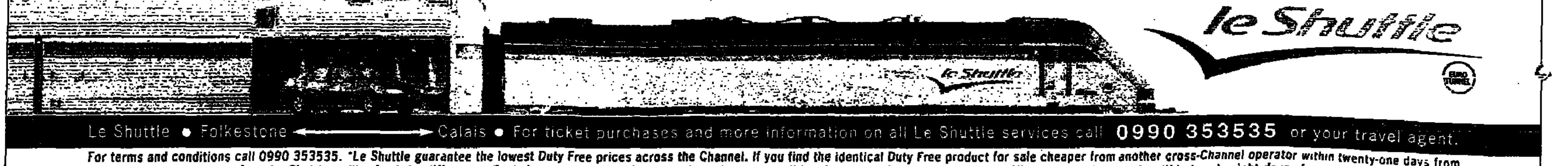

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■ OPINION

Is it art, or is it a bag of lard? That is a question worth £10,000 in prize money

■ POP

And is it Elvis — or is it El Vez, the man who put a Latino stamp on *Hound Dog*?

THE TIMES

ARTS

■ ON MONDAY

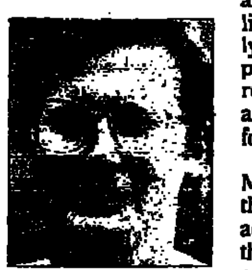
Times critics review David Bowie and the other stars at the Phoenix Festival . . .

■ ON MONDAY

. . . and the opening weekend of concerts and opera from the BBC Proms at the Albert Hall

A feast of foolishness in the larder

WEEK IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

Did you, like me, find this year's shortlist for the Tate Gallery's Turner Prize somewhat lacking in agricultural nourishment? No dead sheep to be seen. Not a single rice field attempted by any competitor. And one finalist who actually *paints pictures*. Honestly, I sometimes despair of our art colleges.

Never mind! There is one prize, at least, that keeps the great traditions of modern British art alive. Yes, an art student is £10,000 richer this week after winning the 1996 Bayer Earth Art Award with a sculpture made of steel, PVC, striplights — and a third of a ton of lard. Dee Meaden, 23, from the Chelsea College of Art (how proud they must be!) beat 330 other entrants with *Too Many Variables*, which impressed the judges (the indefatigably trendy Brian Eno, David Mach and Francis Graham-Dixon) by immersing six striplights in lard to turn it "from a solid white lump into a glowing, amber liquid". Thus it was apparently able to convey "contradictory feelings of comfort and anxiety".

According to the people at Bayer (who are not completely bonkers, but a German chemicals company), this giant bag of lard "invites tactile investigation but also threatens to burst and flood its contents at any moment".

It all reminds me of an accident I had while trying to defrost our fridge a few years ago. If memory serves, that unfortunate incident also involved a thrilling combustion of steel, spurting methane gas, striplights, live electric wires, charred human flesh (my own) and lard — not to mention margarine, a half-eaten trifle, several pints of milk and a kipper.

I cannot recall whether I experienced "contradictory feelings of comfort and anxiety", but I do realise that I was silly to dispose of the wrecked fridge and its unusual soufflé of debris. What I should have done, of course, was enter the whole ghastly mess for the Bayer Earth Art Award.

Our friends at the Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy (crazy name, crazy guys!) have once again produced the most astonishing list in British culture. It is the one that reveals the huge differences in local authority support for the arts around Britain.

The figures defy all logic. Is Leicestershire a vastly wealthier county than Berkshire? Are the lusty lads of Loughborough so much more cultured than the merry wives of Windsor? It seems improbable. So why is Leicestershire's arts subsidy *30 times greater* per head than Berkshire's?

And what of Hertfordshire, that county of wall-to-wall Volvos? I wonder what its annual subsidy for the arts — a princely 10p per head — actually buys. Half a banjo? A secondhand tutu?

It's the sly, middle-class unfairness of it all that makes me cross. Living in Royston, Hertfordshire, and paying just 10p each year towards the arts doesn't disqualify you from nipping to Cambridge and enjoying the excellent theatre life which is subsidised handsomely by that city's ratepayers (£16.57 per head). Similarly, Birmingham residents (£10.98) are bankrolling a superb diet of music and theatre for outlying Warwickshire (£1.31).

But that's not the main problem. Much local-authority spending on the arts is for youth or amateur activity. People won't travel out of their area for that. Indeed, young people usually cannot afford to. Instead, there is apathy, boredom, violence, and kids kicking around on street corners with nothing to do except get into trouble.

Recently I was in a small town in the west of England. It has no theatre, cinema or youth club. Its education budget is in shreds; most kids leave school at 16; and the main local employer has just relocated. A pub started a disco twice a week; the council closed it for "noise reasons".

You do wonder whether the people running that town are in politics to improve the quality of life, or sadistically to extinguish all hope from the lives of the have-nots. This isn't an argument about money; it is about whether we want *communities* or fragmented, dangerous urban badlands where the only thing that matters is how green the grass is in your own, heavily fortified, backyard.

Fed up with all those ancient pop groups that cling desperately to the illusion that they still have something important to offer the world? Then I bear terrible tidings. Status Quo, the Stones, Clapton and the rest could still be belting out their whiskery hits half a century from now.

Yes, it's sad but apparently true. A BBC TV series called *Coming of Age* will claim next month that "by the year 2050 there's a very good chance that many Britons will live for 112 years or more".

Mathematically gifted readers will realise the terrible implications. That self-important generation, the "children of the Sixties", could be clogging up the CD catalogues, holding desperate reunions in Hyde Park, and suing Radio 1 over being "unfairly excluded" from the playlist, well into the 21st century. What chance will teenage newcomers have against frisky ninety-somethings?

Still, let's look on the bright side. Rain-soaked Wimbledon crowds 40 years hence will still be rejoicing to the merry sound of Cliff Richard crooning *Summer Holiday*. Jeremy Beadle will still be "about" in 2030. And Messrs Boublil and Schonberg have enough decades left for a dozen more musicals like *Martin Guerre*. Cheering thoughts.

King of the Mexican wave

El Vez, the Presley impersonator for the politically correct, hits London next week. **Kate Muir** reports

Most of us have seen Elvis Presley impersonators — at the Memphis "Weep Week", say, the anniversary of the King's death, or in Chinese restaurants in south London. But El Vez, the Mexican now coming to Britain, has brought the art of imitation to new heights. In a white flared jumpsuit emblazoned with the Virgin of Guadeloupe, El Vez sings *You're Nothing But a Chihuahua* for *Hound Dog*; *In El Barrio* for *In the Ghetto* and *Esta Bien, Mama* for *That's Alright, Mama*.

El Vez began life 32 years ago as Robert Lopez, born to Mexican parents who lived on the American side of the border. When he reached maturity (of sorts) he started buying Day of the Dead folk art cheap in Mexico and hawking it in America. Later, while working in a small museum in Los Angeles, this inspired him to curate an exhibition of Elvis folk art. "Crude Elvis dolls with ceramic heads and really weird jumpsuits, that kinda stuff," he says. "The finest work was a fly-swatter cover crocheted with an image of Elvis."

El Vez appreciated the heartfelt sincerity behind these objects of general ridicule. In his own home he has four velvet paintings of Elvis and a couple of fine oils. The Graceland style — the shagpile, gilt and faux leopard covering — has percolated his inner being. "I love it," he breathes. "My bedroom has a furry Elvis bedspread and gold brocade on the headboard. I have Aztec sundials and gold Elvis discs on the walls, and mirrors on the ceiling." Of course El Vez makes the pilgrimage to Memphis twice a year, for the birth (January 8, 1935) and the death (August 16, 1977) anniversaries.

His first performance came in 1989. "I thought: 'I can do that better than that' after I saw impersonators at the Elvis folk art show. I used to sing in a punk rock band, so the idea was to go to Graceland and sing to people waiting in line."

Instead, someone told him to call up the annual Elvis impersonators' contest. "I'm Robert Lopez, I'm calling for the Mexican Elvis, El Vez," he began. "Oh yeah, we've heard of him," they said, although he had just been created on the spur of the moment.

On the plane to the contest Lopez rewrote some of the songs, practised his moves in the hotel room and sang in a jacket covered in Elvis badges with a painting of El Vez on the back. He also wore a gold sombrero. By the time he got home to Los Angeles calls were coming in from television stations. Oprah Winfrey, Jay Leno, MTV and Joan Rivers courted him, and, six albums later, El Vez is now on his world tour. I catch up with him, his backing singers the Elvettes, and his band, the Memphis Mariachis, when the tour hit a club just off the porn-packed Reeperbahn in Hamburg.

Do the Germans grasp the ironies here, appreciate the kitsch, and understand Angelino-Latino culture, I wonder. El Vez examines his chipped black nail polish and goes all right-on: "In Berlin, when I was singing *Immigration Time* — which is a borders version of *Suspicious Minds* — kids came up to me, Turkish kids who lived in Germany, and said they got it.

> ‘I take the Latino point of view and put it on to Elvis's songs’

"Germany is now a melting pot, just like America. In Slovenia Croatian kids say they understand about Emiliano Zapata. It puts their lives in context, gives them a more global point of view."

At the beginning of the show, two red banners are unfurled at the back of the stage, each featuring a black eagle on a white circle. "These symbols are not fascist insignia," the audience is told. "They are the symbols of the National Farmworkers of Mexico [a favoured cause of El Vez]."

But they have the same shock value, even though the eagle is of Aztec design. "I think it's fascinating that the worst-oppressed people are using the symbols of the worst oppressors," El Vez says. "The Brown Berets were like the Black Panthers of the Latino set. They wore brown shirts." And black nail varnish? When exactly did the real Elvis wear that? "Oh, never. This is part of my celebration of glitter rock. I take Elvis songs and rearrange them with other influences like Bowie and T. Rex, just to show how Elvis's music reflected on other people."

He plunges deeper: "I take the Latino point of view and put it on top of Elvis's songs because Presley is the American Dream and, like, I am superimposing the Latino culture on top of the Dream because America can belong to a Latino too." Presumably this is why one of his albums is called *G.I. Ay, Ay! Blues*.

El Vez points to the quote from the politico-folk singer Phil Ochs, which goes: "If there's any hope for America it lies in a Revolution. And if there's any hope for a Revolution, it lies in getting Elvis Presley to become Ché Guevara." Thus we have the El Vez *Rock and Revolution* summer tour, and its carefully crafted sales pitch.

El Vez does indeed come on as Guevara, in a crotch-fitting flared jumpsuit in Army camouflage material, and the Elvettes carry plastic machine guns. Standing before the red banners, he opens with a reworking of James Brown: *Say it Loud, I'm Brown and I'm Proud*. Hundreds of Germans scream and stomp and drink beer. They have no real idea of what is going on. They like El Vez in the same way that they like tortilla chips. Will the British know any better?

In the middle of the show there is a ten-minute medley of Elvis songs, and some costume changes which pay tribute to the King's tackiest years. El Vez begins in pink flock-wallpaper flares, a purple sequined shirt and a feather boa. Then the flares are ripped off to reveal skintight purple satin drainpipes, and a red sequined shirt appears beneath the black. Girls scream. One throws a cuddly bunny. El Vez kisses outstretched hands and, Presley-style, throws sweaty towels into the audience.

The show is as slick as El Vez's concept. No wonder he once had a job as a salesman in an LA shop called Wacko, which sold "crazy plastic Godzilla monsters, Ultraman dolls, all sortsa kitsch". He is merely recycling the songs which parallel that kitschy culture, in a neat political package.

"The Chicano thing," he says, "is like, in America, we were here first. The Spanish street names in California, the adobe houses, it was all there before them. White Americans love our culture, they love our music, but they just don't love us. We are the maids, the janitors, the dishwashers, and they complain we're taking away their jobs, but they're jobs they don't want. Then there are the sweatshops, the farmworkers sprayed with chemicals while working on the fields as though they are not real people. I don't feel like I'm really being an activist, I just do whatever I can."

El Vez has had to dig deep to find the Aztec in Elvis, but he has discovered the last jumpsuit Presley wore was emblazoned with the Aztec calendar and sundial. He also says that impersonation itself was part of Aztec life. "There was the cult of the King impersonators. An ordinary man would live like a king for a year, and be paraded round the city dressed in robes. At the end of the year, he would be sacrificed."

● *El Vez is at the Garage, Highbury Corner, London N5 (0171-607 1818) on Thursday*

"In a white flared jumpsuit emblazoned with the Virgin of Guadeloupe, El Vez sings *You're Nothing But a Chihuahua* for *Hound Dog*; *In El Barrio* for *In the Ghetto*"

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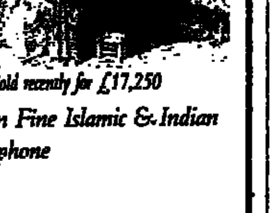

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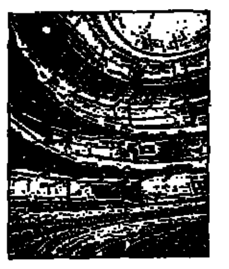

■ GOING OUT

From *Lulu* and the other operas in the current repertoire at Glyndebourne . . .

■ GOING OUT

. . . to George Melly in festive mood: the top entertainments are listed in *Weekend*, page 16

New life in the emerald aisles

With a confident swagger, the Irish film industry put itself on show at the Galway Film Fleadh. Luke Clancy watched the results

When Terry George's **Some Mother's Son** was premiered at Cannes this year, one British critic gained an extraordinary amount of publicity for himself and the film by suggesting it was Irish Government-sponsored propaganda.

Leaving aside the propaganda question, the film certainly received strong support from the Republic of Ireland, both from new tax incentives for film productions and from the re-established Irish Film Board. It was appropriate, then, that the film's second public screening, and its Irish premiere, should be in Galway, the city that is home to that film board.

Since the Irish Government, in the shape of Michael D. Higgins, the Culture Minister, turned its attention to its development, the film sector in Ireland has seen rapid expansion. As proof of this, the Galway film festival this year offered an unprecedented six Irish feature premieres, ranging from George's unequivocally Republican film about the 1981 H-Block hunger strikes, to *Exterminator*, a flippant, ultra-low-budget action movie.

Some Mother's Son, which George co-wrote with Jim Sheridan, who collaborated with him on *In the Name of the Father*, was the only Irish feature at the festival to receive a standing ovation, although this was perhaps as much for its frankly Republican sentiments as for its cinematic value. The film certainly comes with a distinct point of view, powerfully and movingly expressed. It clearly sides with the hunger strikers, seen through the eyes of two of their mothers, played by Helen Mirren and Fionnula Flanagan, but makes no claim to do otherwise.

It is as polished a production as has ever emerged from the Irish film industry and represents a far-from-rare vision of recent history. It would have been a strange national film board that did not facilitate its production. As it happens, however, only $1 million of the film's $8 million budget came from the film board, the remainder arriving from the American giant Castle Rock, whose lustrous production values mark the film.

If there was a type of film that the Irish Film Board should certainly think carefully about sponsoring in future, it is the coming-of-age drama. Several new Irish films took refuge in this creaky, sentimental genre, using the end of the summer holidays as a clumsy narrative full stop to a pointless story.

If Irish film is finally growing up, let's hope it does not turn out anything like **Last of the High Kings**, a film that creaks with smugness, while remaining undeniably immature. It was co-written by Gabriel Byrne, who also turns up to provide the performance that bookends the movie as the often absent head of the tiresomely colourful Griffin family. One longs for his return, even if only because his appearance will obviously signal the end of this mercilessly self-satisfied film.

Visiting hours: Helen Mirren and Aiden Gillen star in Terry George's hunger-strike drama, *Some Mother's Son*

Geraldine Creed's first feature also finds its bare bones of a plot stretched over a long summer vacation, this time spent in the grim resorts of north Dublin. **The Son, the Moon and the Stars** has suffered an arduous passage to the screen, but this cluttered tale of grumpy, Doc-Martens-wearing Shelley's seaside holiday still gives the unmistakable impression of being a little rushed. Slackly scripted by Creed and loosely acted by a cast that bizarrely includes Jason Donovan and Angie Dickinson, the film is as laborious as it is ragged.

Sue Clayton's **The Disappearance of Finbar** has all the marks of a film planted in the loamy soil of co-production. Based on a novel by Carl Lombard, the story starts in the rougher parts of Tallaght, in south Dublin, and winds up, a few hundred miles north, in the white wastes of Lapland.

Coming of age is once more the quest, but the film also powerfully contrasts one kind of bleakness in Tallaght with quite another at the edges of the Arctic circle. Both are captured in Eduardo Serra's laconic photography, and Luke Griffin is gently effective as the stoically confused adolescent in search of his lost friend and his own future.

Every film festival now needs its guttersnipe *auteur* and Galway certainly had one in the shape of Enda Hughes, director of **Exterminator**. This unapologetically lo-fi splatter film is a hugely enjoyable homage to the exploitation movie, recycling everything from *Rebel Without a Cause* to *Evil Dead* in a robustly trashy vision of Irish history.

Gillies MacKinnon's **Trojan Eddie** occasionally indulges in some gruesome violence that would not be out of place in *Exterminator*, but there the similarities between the two end. Rather than mumbled B-movie clichés, McKinnon's film has a muscular and measured script from Billy Roche, and stars the exquisitely withdrawn Stephen Rae as a market hawker mixed up with the semi-criminal business of one family of "travellers". Richard Harris co-stars as the ageing, febrile brute at the head of a criminal family. His performance may be a close relative of his Bull McCabe in *The Field* but is still a poignant, if menacing, creation.

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

ELIZA CARTHY

Age: 20

Profession: Folk singer and fiddler. The elfin star of the new bratpack of British folk.

Winning combination: Carthy's first solo album, *Heat, Light & Sound*, has thrilled the critics with its technical assurance and fresh gutsy style. Carthy enthusiastically retrieves traditional tunes, jaunty hornpipes or gruesome murder ballads from the archives of Cecil Sharp House. Yet she also has a poppy, punky look. A far cry from the hobos of yore, her hair was bright blue when she played at the Albert Hall the other week.

Roots: Liza — the E is silent — is the offspring of two icons of the 1960s first folk revival. Her father is the guitarist and vocalist Martin Carthy, who influenced Bob Dylan, Paul Simon and many more. Her mother, Norma, was one of the seminal family of singers, the Watersons. Indeed the tradition reaches way back. One great-great-grandmother was a tinker who knew a ballad or two.

At home: Liza was born and bred in Whitby, where the kitchen regularly featured rehearsing musicians. She also tottered about on folk festival stages before she could play a note. She still lives in Whitby, sharing a house with fellow fiddle player Nancy Kerr, when they are not on the road.

For the record: Liza will be playing at the mighty Cambridge Folk Festival all day on Friday. She is also recording two more albums: one with her dance band, the Kings of Calicutt, the other with her parents, both for release this winter.

What drives her? "I just really enjoy gigging," she says. "With folk songs you are imparting stories. Then, with the dance band, everyone starts jumping around." She first realised this was the life at 13, when her mother and Aunt Lal decided it would be fun to sing with their daughters and landed them a date at the Vancouver Folk Festival. "It was ace and I got paid," Carthy says, "and I thought, this is a great job." Carthy is also passionate about English folk music, admiring her Celtic counterparts but feistily proud of her own country's forgotten airs.

How do you sing and play the violin at the same time? "It's like patting your head and rubbing your stomach," she says. "I just open my mouth and hope."

KATE BASSETT

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■ THEATRE

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■ BASE NOTES

Elliott Carter, America's senior composer, is to receive one of music's most coveted honours

THE TIMES ARTS

■ BASE NOTES

Gene Wilder will make his West End stage debut in a Neil Simon play this autumn

■ BASE NOTES

Pub pianists of the world, compete! Leeds gets ready to roll out the barrel

As *Voyeurz* arrives, **Jeremy Kingston** recalls the era when sex on stage was thought 'interesting'

The first shock of the nude

In the adverts a heavy-lidded blonde is leaning out through what looks like a porthole in Hell. She is down to her black knickerz but her *stocking-topz* are still hoist high. In the flame-red background a couple of girlz are dancing round each other. "Satisfy your curiosity" reads the legend. *Voyeurz* is coming.

Billed as a follow-up to the 1970 nudes 'n' sexes show *Oh! Calcutta!*, also produced by Michael White, it is "the story of a young girl's discovery of her own sexuality set against the backdrop of a steamy 'anything goes' New York nightclub". Including Fem 2 Fem, the lipstick lesbian band (ie, men also fancy them), the women in the cast outnumber the men by 13 to two, and one of the men wears a dress. So what little innocent Jane (Sally Anne Marsh), the farm-girl from Virginia (geddit?), looks likely to discover, sexuality-wise, is not just, heaven knows, anything goes, but that one thing seems to go on more than others.

We shall find out next week whether what is on display greatly differs from the sort of Saturday evenings we enjoy when we strap on our rubber and bondage and head up West. But what is interesting is the mention of *Oh! Calcutta!* as a show everyone is assumed to remember as a landmark for what can be shown on the public stage.

Some of us do remember it, of course, and are finding the rubber gear a tadge of a strain to squeeze into these days, for it is 26 years this month since *Oh! Quel cul tu as!* — pardon my French — opened in London. Bliss was it in those days to be in the theatre.

Bodies of evidence: Ken Tynan's *Oh! Calcutta!* broke the taboos but would look "pathetically unimaginative" today

Stirring times. Indeed, nudes had not long been permitted to show themselves stirring in the theatre. In the words of *The Times* leader writer: "It is only a couple of years since the prim hand of the Lord Chamberlain was lifted from the public stage."

Audiences who attended *Hair* had seemingly not been depraved or corrupted either by the nudity in a dim light or by mention of masturbation and sodomy. But what would be the consequences when references, hitherto merely verbal, were physically simulated by actors, nude or otherwise? Ken Tynan, who devised *Oh! Calcutta!*, had let it be known that this was the kind of activity audiences would be able to see. But simulation would surely mean stimulation. This was clearly an issue on which opinions had to be voiced, stands taken.

This paper's leader devoted 28 column inches to the matter, deciding that "the leap from what passed [the Lord Chamberlain's] office to the nude simulation of sexual excitement, even if accompanied by highbrow banter, is a leap too far for the generality of opinion". A GLC councillor asked the Archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster to condemn the show as "the shame of London". Wisely, their diaries were kept too full for a visit to be arranged.

So what was it really like, this "offence to all Christians"? Tynan had commissioned a score of well-known writers — Joe Orton, Sam Shepard, Jules Feiffer, John Lennon among them — to write a sketch about something sexual. Irving Wardle, then the drama critic of this newspaper, commented: "I have seen better revues than *Oh! Calcutta!* but none based on ideas that strike me as more sympathetic. Namely, that the ordinary human body is an object well worth attention."

That said, he found it "in many ways a ghastly show: ill-written, juvenile, attention-seeking," but went on to say, "not boring; and some of the material is very funny". I was writing for *Punch* in those days and commented, with quaint care: "The display of bare bodies is interesting to watch." It was too, though so many have been visible since, doing so much more, that a film of the show would look pathetically unimaginative.

> ❛ So what was it really like, this 'offence to all Christians'? ❜

I also found its sketches a mix of good, passable and dire, particularly liking the one that showed the orthodox girly fantasies of a group of masturbating males repeatedly giving way before a colleague's insistent vision of the galloping Lone Ranger.

Will *Voyeurz* be witty? Oh, I hope so, but whatever its content and however prurient the hype, a show like this in 1996 will not be generating 28 column inches of social analysis. Nor is it likely to revive the tangled arguments, not to say cant, favouring freedom of expression at all costs. In 1970 the publisher John Calder said that *Oh! Calcutta!* must be encouraged because it brought nearer the day when there would be no need for such shows. I do not know what he meant by *need*, any more than I can say if we need *Voyeurz* today. *I hope I like what* Fem 2 Fem play and that Jane finds fulfilment in New York. I dare say the display of bare bodies will be . . . interesting.

Veterans' day at the Proms

BASE NOTES

TWO of the world's oldest and most distinguished composers will meet at the Royal College of Music in London on Monday. **Sir Michael Tippett**, now 91, will present the gold medal of the Royal Philharmonic Society to the American **Elliott Carter**, his junior by four years. The medal, which has been awarded to many of the greatest composers and performers of the past century, will be presented during the first BBC lunchtime prom, which includes the London premiere of Carter's String Quartet No 5. Concert and presentation are to be broadcast live on Radio 3, starting at 1pm.

● EIGHT hundred staff at the **J. Paul Getty Trust** in California began moving this month into what will be the largest and most expensive private museum in the world: the new £500 million, 110-acre Getty Centre, built in the Santa Monica Mountains above Los Angeles. The centre, which will be opened to the public in autumn next year, will bring all the Getty Trust's institutes, collections and grant programmes together on one site. Some 1.5 million visitors are expected each year. Meanwhile, the Getty villa at Malibu will close for renovation, reopening in 2000 as a museum dedicated to ancient art.

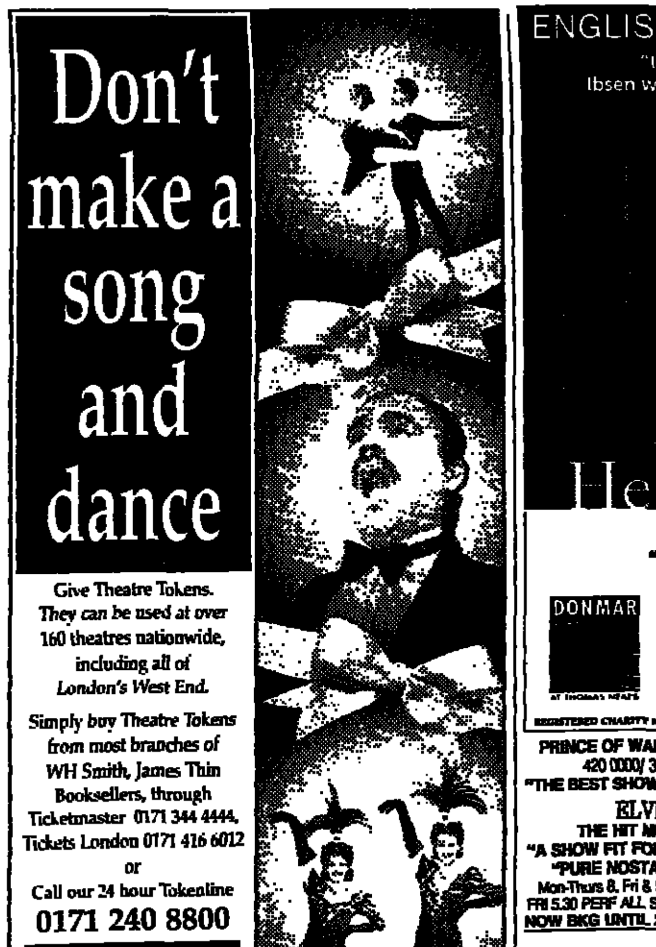
● THE **Cardiff Bay Opera House** is dead; long live the Cardiff Bay Opera House. That seems to be the message from the Arts Council of Wales, which has announced a lottery award of £178,125 to the Cardiff Bay Development Corporation to fund a feasibility study for "a *Millennium Centre* for the Arts in Cardiff Bay, including a 2,000-seat theatre . . . and a home base for Welsh National Opera". The original plan for a Cardiff Bay Opera House was rejected by another lottery-disbursing quango, the Millennium Commission, last year.

● HOLLYWOOD funny man **Gene Wilder** is venturing on to the West End stage for the first time. He will star in Neil Simon's *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* at the Queen's Theatre, opening on October 3. Wilder plays a writer for television during the medium's heyday in the 1950s.

● LEEDS will host not one piano competition in September, but two. The more famous is the **Leeds International *Piano* Competition**, which attracts brilliant young players from around the globe. But the jollier occasion is likely to be the **1996 Tetley Great Universal Leeds Pub Piano Competition**, designed to find the world's best pub pianist, and carrying the irresistible first prize of "£200 plus six months' supply of beer". Details and entry forms from Sharon Williams, Leeds Leisure Services, Town Hall, Leeds LS1 3AD (0113-247 8332).

● THE Festival Hall in London is going "live" on the Internet for the first time next Friday. A concert by the techno-pop composer **Ryuichi Sakamoto** — best known for his work on the film *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence* — will be broadcast on the Internet, thanks to sponsorship by Mitsubishi. The National Film Theatre is also mounting *a day-long retrospective* of Sakamoto's film work, and staging an interview with him at 6pm.

THEATRES



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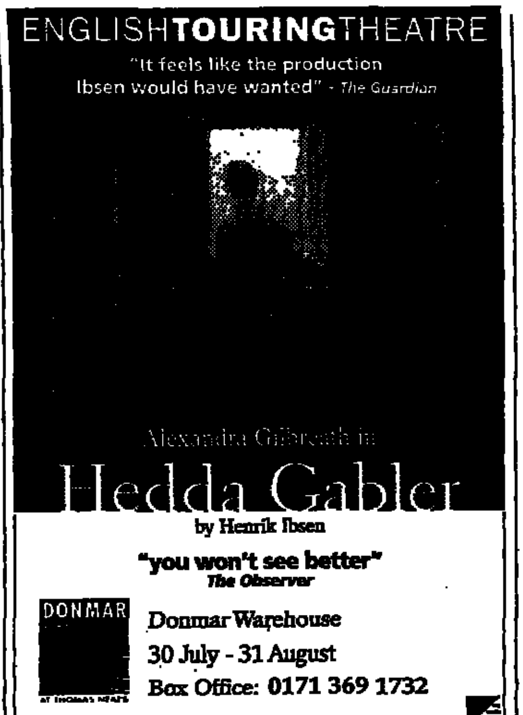

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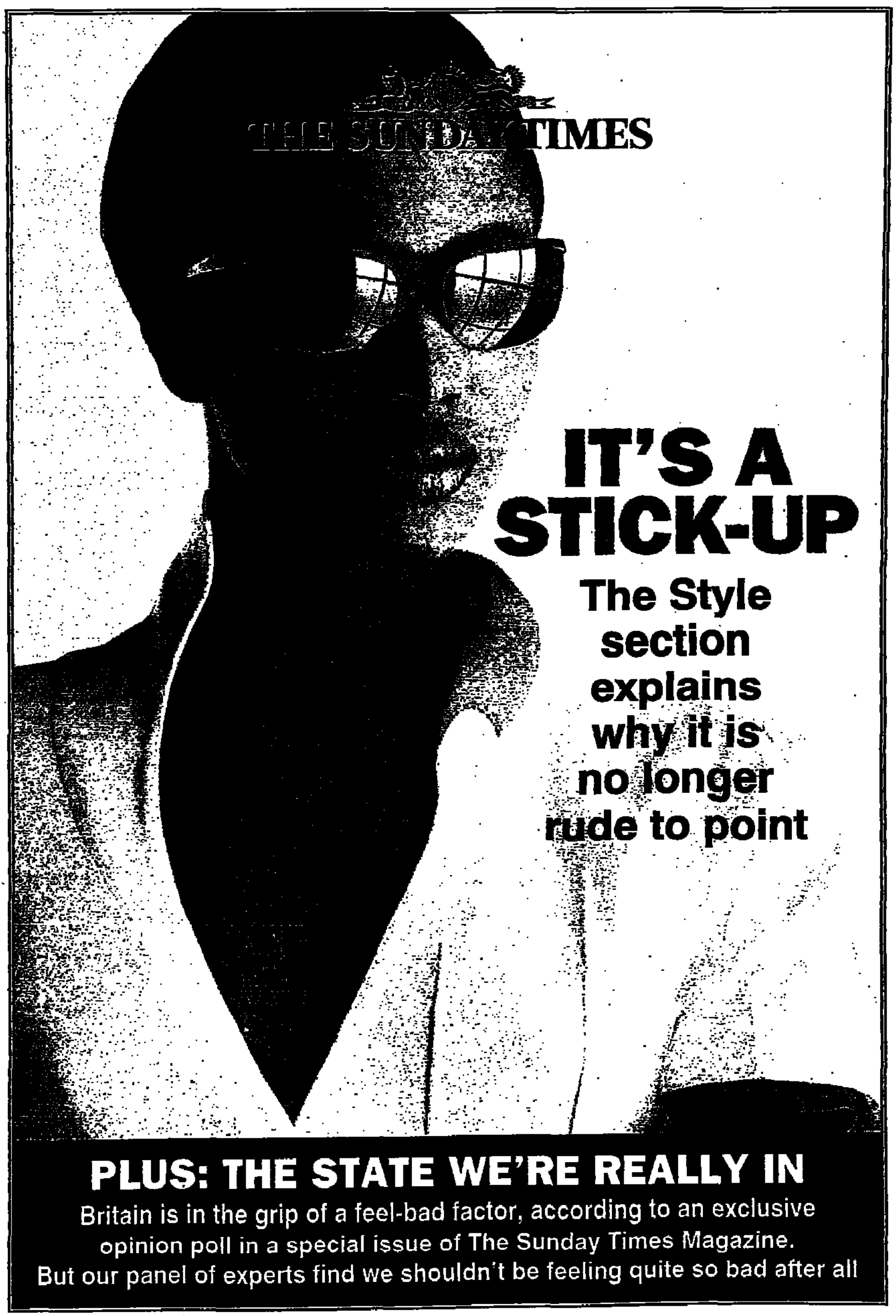


THE SUNDAY TIMES
IT'S A STICK-UP
The Style section explains why it is no longer rude to point
PLUS: THE STATE WE'RE REALLY IN
Britain is in the grip of a feel-bad factor, according to an exclusive opinion poll in a special issue of The Sunday Times Magazine.
But our panel of experts find we shouldn't be feeling quite so bad after all

As violence spreads and Ulster's ambiguous status arouses Unionist fears, **Norman Lamont** calls on the Government to think again

Why the peace process is dead

Recent events have been a massive victory for the IRA and Sinn Fein. Until recently they were losing the propaganda battle. The conventional Whitehall wisdom was that whatever the setbacks to the peace process, the IRA were marginalised and appeared intransigent. Not any longer. After last week they portrayed themselves as protectors of the weak. Gerry Adams walked the streets calling for restraint and calm.

Too many people in Britain have fallen for this misleading picture. The reaction of many people to the Orange marches has been a mixture of outrage and puzzlement. The view has even been expressed in the letters columns of *The Times* that the Orangemen's antics have been more offensive to the rest of the UK than the IRA killings of the past 20 years.

I find it desperately sad that there should be so little understanding and sympathy for those whose greatest fear is that they may not be allowed to continue to be a part of this country.

Undoubtedly the Orange marches attracted a skinhead element and there was violence against Catholics. But Cardinal Daly might have recognised that the so-called "residents' associations" that reacted with fury to the marches were led by IRA supporters. He might also have acknowledged the remarkable restraint of the majority after what they have put up with for 20 years. To equate the bomb and the bullet with marches shows a curious set of values.

The tragedy of last week is that it was predictable and indeed, was predicted. One of those who foresaw these events was the veteran Irish politician, Conor Cruise O'Brien. Two-and-a-half years ago he described the IRA ceasefire as a tactic in the continuing armed struggle. He forecast that the IRA would use the opportunity to destabilise Ulster. He predicted that Sinn Fein would seek to create a confrontation between the Protestant majority and the civil authorities. Ironically he has been ill, just as his prophecies have looked increasingly accurate.

It is time to recognise that the peace process is dead. That is no *reflection on the Government or the* Prime Minister. But as Winston Churchill once said, "If we do not face reality, reality will face us". In this case refusing to face reality could be very dangerous.

The peace process did not die with the Orange marches. It did not die because of lack of effort from the British Government. It died with the bombs at Canary Wharf and Manchester.

It is pointless to keep saying after every bomb goes off that the peace process goes on regardless. The idea that one can establish peace without the IRA is obviously ridiculous. And for good reasons the Government has rightly decided not to allow Sinn Fein to participate in talks.

The British public, tired by years of bombing, regards anything called a "peace process" as a good thing. Did not the process, after all, stop the bombing for 18 months? That is like saying that 1937 and *1938 brought a period of peace.*

In judging the peace process, the *real question is: will Northern* Ireland in the long run be nearer to peace? The results so far are not encouraging. The IRA have been able to use the ceasefire and reduced surveillance to regroup for a new offensive. They have been able to raise large amounts of money. The problem has been internationalised — and finally, Sinn Fein has won a large vote in an election.

Two years ago in the House of Commons, I asked what negotiations with Sinn Fein were going to be about. Surely, I *suggested, the one thing the IRA* were interested in, namely the reunification of Ireland, was the one thing that could not be given. The IRA are not in the business of setting up cross-border tourist authorities, nor are they interested in the internal government of Northern Ireland. Theirs is a bigger agenda: the ending of British rule.

A few weeks ago, Dick Spring described the peace process as "the *search for a middle way between* Unionism and Nationalism". Sir Patrick Mayhew, in the House of Commons, denied this definition of the peace process. But those were the words of the Irish Foreign Affairs Minister.

There cannot be a middle way between Unionism and Nationalism. To pursue a middle way that does not exist is likely to arouse unreal expectations on the part of Nationalists and simultaneously to provoke a backlash from the majority, who fear they are being sold down the river. That is what has happened and will continue to *happen if policy does not change.*

The Protestant majority have good reason to be fearful. They can read newspapers and opinion polls as well as anyone else. They know that sections of British public opinion are all too ready to contemplate withdrawal from Northern Ireland. They have seen British governments in the past attempt to dump Ulster. Even Winston Churchill flirted with handing over the six counties. Recently the special status of Ulster has appeared more ambiguous. The Union Jack has ceased to fly over army establishments. The national anthem is no longer to be sung at graduation day at Queen's University, Belfast. With this deliberate erosion of national symbols, is it any wonder that Orangemen have become more militant, more determined to emphasise their identity and tradition?

The Government must be careful not to appear even-handed between democratic politicians and politicians associated with violence. Significant concessions have been made to the IRA, such as the release of prisoners before they have completed their sentences — a remarkable contrast with the policies urged elsewhere by Michael Howard.

What Ulster needs is certainty about its constitutional future. To introduce the slightest hint of ambiguity into the status of Northern Ireland — particularly the so-called "Irish" dimension — is to reinforce the cycle of violence and counter-violence.

Britain has a clear obligation to the Nationalist minority in Northern Ireland. Any Government which presides over a religious or ethnic minority has a duty to see that the freedoms of that minority are safeguarded and that their lives and property are protected. It is quite justifiable for the minority to be given an entrenched position in any arrangement for the internal government of Northern Ireland. But what is not justified is to give foreign governments a special say in Northern Ireland. That merely feeds the fear of the majority.

It is time for the Government to think again. John Major has tried tremendously hard, as hard as any human being could have done. But his efforts have met with a miserable response. Now is the time for a completely new approach. It should involve governing Ulster more like the rest of the UK. It ought also to mean a new offensive against the terrorists. The Government must sound as though it wants to defeat terrorism. And that is a task in which there is a key role for the Irish Government.

The Spanish Civil War: a memoir

Hugh Thomas recalls writing his classic history of the conflict that began 60 years ago

I first went to Spain by train from Paris in the winter of 1955, and I travelled to Madrid, Málaga, Seville and Granada. Every incident in that journey is etched in my memory. In Seville, walking one day out of the old Hotel Inglaterra into the plaza de San Francisco, I determined at all costs, however difficult it might seem, that when I returned to London, I would write a history of the Spanish Civil War.

Why should such a desire frame itself? I cannot now quite explain the full answer. I don't think I had met John Elliott at Cambridge, I had not even heard of Raymond Carr and, although I had been lent Gerald Brenan's *The Spanish Labyrinth*, I did not read it until I returned to London.

Obviously I was looking for a subject. Gibbon described *how he toyed with the idea of* writing about the Medici and the Swiss republic before deciding to write *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. I think that if people are honest with themselves, that is how most books begin. Before going to Spain, I was obsessed with the French Huguenot wars, and I might easily have written about them.

It is difficult now to recapture just what an intellectual wasteland the Spanish Civil War was in the late 1950s. In Spain itself, the Franco regime was using the memory of the war as the key to its propaganda. It was a most successful policy, for most Spaniards would say, well, whatever you may say about Franco, we are determined never to have another civil war. Few doubts about the nature of the nationalist victory were published. The monarchy seemed the best hope for the future, but the charming and anglophile Don Juan had been outmaneouvred by Franco and was badly advised, and Don Juan Carlos was still being educated.

Outside Spain, surviving exiles were bringing their intelligence to bear on the civil war, especially in Mexico and France, but politically they presented a divided face. For the rest, the experience of the world war had effaced most memories of the Spanish war, even if some thought of it as a rehearsal — a metaphor which always seems a little unsatisfactory, since Spain was not present at the main performance. A few survivors of the International Brigades might sing *Los Cuatro Generales*, but they were already moving into the twilight of the past.

More than the books I read or the battle sites I visited, it is *the people I consulted who* stand out in my memory: Pablo de Azcarate, ex-republican ambassador to London and retired UN official, whom I used to visit in Geneva and who gave me access to his papers over a sombre glass of scotch; Salvador de Madariaga, author of what seemed then the best modern history of Spain, whose benign, enthusiastic, small, energetic figure *I still see in my mind whenev*er I go to the Reform Club, his London base. It was there, too, that I first met Julian Gorkin, one of the leaders of the POUM, and there he told me how La Pasionaria had been built up to be a great orator by a Svengali from the Comintern...

Once I was working in the Avenue Foch, the Paris seat of the exiled republican government, when big doors swung open and I saw Emilio Herrera, minister of war in exile. Herrera had been a correct colonel in 1936 who had stood by the republic, not for ideological reasons but because he had given his oath of loyalty to it. "What's been happening, my general?" I asked. "Ah, the Government has fallen." "And the new Prime Minister?" Herrera with a sigh replied: "It is I, señor."

Others whom I came to know in Spain included Ramón Serrano Súñer, Franco's brother-in-law. He had then been long out of office, but had been an important influence on the Generalissimo in the war. As a good liberal in those days, I hesitated a while on my first visit outside his holiday house in the Basque resort of Zarauz, before pressing the bell. Was Serrano not a friend of Germany, who had openly regretted the fact that Hitler *had lost the war? Had we not* been told in 1941 that *el cuñadisimo* ("the supreme brother-in-law") would soon be landing in Devonshire at the head of an army of foreign legionaries, to assist the Nazis and thus avenge the misdeeds of the infamous Drake? But historians should not have such sensitivity, and in the event Serrano could not have been more welcoming. I *stayed to lunch.*

Though I did not neglect the International Brigades, I could not see the most famous of the British brigaders, the promising poet John Cornford, for he had left his bones near Córdoba. But I did meet his mother, the poet Frances Cornford, who insisted (to the surprise of some of his comrades) that her son had been shot deliberately by his *communist friends because he* was about to abandon that affiliation.

When my book *The Spanish Civil War* was published in 1961, it obviously satisfied a definite need, since it was a success. I have lived with "*de la Guerra Civil*", almost as if it had been a surname, ever since; though I am glad to claim that, with my studies of Cortés and Moctezuma, I have now a second such appellation, namely, "*y de la Conquista de México*".

After the death of Franco in 1975, the censorship was lifted and there was a great wave of books about the civil war, some having been previously banned like my book, others written specially for the occasion. Am I deceiving myself, or did this avalanche of histories play a positive part in the transition to democracy, and in creating that mood of tolerance which is such an appealing part of modern Spain, and such a contrast with the past?

This is an edited version of a paper given by Lord Thomas of Swynnerton at a seminar in the Escorial yesterday to mark the 60th anniversary of the outbreak of the civil war.

Wake me for the mile

The Olympics are a television feast for the hard of thinking. But brevity is the soul of reporting

Simon Jenkins

I *am going to sleep for two* weeks, but wake me for the mile. The mile is the only race that matters. A mile was my first walk to school. A mile a day keeps the doctor away. A mile a minute was the Great Western's target timetable. From Bannister and Chataway to Coe and Ovett, *this distance has re*tained its magic. It demands a precise balance of physical strength and tactical intelligence. The four-minute mile was the athletic sound barrier. When Emsley Carr became the first athletics sponsor, he chose to sponsor the mile. Even debased as the 1500 metres, *it is one Olympic event* whose outcome does not seem to depend on ethnicity, muscle *tone, steroids, equipment,* luck, suspect judges or ludicrous scoring. It is a joy to watch.

That event apart, the next fortnight looks grim. Once again the airwaves are to be saturated with material that meets television's dream requirement, to keep the maximum number of sets switched on, even if the viewer is in a state of zombied tedium wait*ing for the next bit of excite*ment to happen. After an absurd European Cup, a disappointing Wimbledon and a wash-out Test series, we must endure the Atlanta Olympics. And since two thirds of the world will allegedly be doing so too, such endurance must be a significant human experience.

The novelist Philip Pullman complained in public this week that nobody writes stories any more. We have all lost the art of narrative, of incident, plot and suspense. Instead we have the gratification of a desire for instant news, however vacuous. In other words, we have sport. Sport is the perfect newsbite, an incident of no consequence but of *real-time immediacy.* Nowadays we are expected to appreciate it even without the synthetic chauvinism of "home team" involvement. It is simply a question followed by an answer: who played and who won? There is no time for "so what?"

Some sporting occasions do *have the quality of a saga.* A soccer international unfolds from partisan anticipation to the crafted suspense of the penalty shoot-out. A tennis match has the thrill of two contestants in personal combat, *the nearest modern sport* gets to an old-fashioned prizefight. A cricket Test match can develop narrative majesty, with fortunes swinging back *and forth, heroes raised up or* dashed and the outcome in suspense until the end.

But the Olympics? The storyline has not altered since Pheidippides arrived from Marathon in 490BC and became the patron saint of journalism. "Greetings," he told the eager Athenians, "We won". *He then dropped dead* on the spot. His epic run has been hallowed and celebrated *ever since.* Nothing has been allowed to vary the distance of the marathon. Since their revival in the last century, the Olympic Games have proved as conservative (and corrupt) as they were in Alcibiades's day. Contestants may use high-tech training. But they still throw Greek javelins, hurl Greek discuses, put Greek shots and wrestle catch-as-catch-can, as if Spartans covered in oil were waiting to *pounce outside the gates of* Atlanta.

What the modern Olympics do not do is honour Pheidippides's other contribution to Olympic legend, his brevity of reportage. His masterly words, "Chairete, nikomen", have been transformed into a bloated splurge *of verbiage. Televising the* 1948 games cost the BBC £1,500. Atlanta will cost it £30 million. Small wonder the schedules have been cleared and the lexicon looted for hyperbole. A huge media gathering will turn a local event into a global one, the 16,000 journalists and technicians *outnumbering the 10,000 con*testants. If any reporters drop dead on the spot, it will be from expenses fatigue.

Sagas will be manufactured. Frantic efforts will be made to find a drugs story, a sex story, *a national shame story.* Announcers will struggle to instil suspense into weightlifting or pole-vaulting by trying to build human drama around each incident, by turning each race into a grudge match. But *the Olympic Games have no* narrative suspense.

CHARLES PLATIAU/REUTERS

Gymnast Svetlana Boginskaya in training for Atlanta

There is nothing complicated about who will first breast the tape or beat the clock. There is no more tension in a 100-metre dash than in a weightlifting catch-and-press. *Most events are a slow-motion, 1-speak-your-speed* machine. We all sit waiting, like the Athenians, to know only who won.

I find this sparse entertainment and will be intrigued to see whether the viewing, listening and circulation figures justify the investment the media are making. Multiple appearances by professional athletes each year mean that the Olympics are, like Wim*bledon or the Golf Open, just* one of many contests by which sporting supremacy is judged. I remember that at Barcelona the talk was all of the forthcoming World Athletics Championships, where serious money was to be earned and for which the Olympics seemed but a preview. *Linford Christie's status as the fastest* man on earth does not depend on his performance at one four-yearly gathering, as did that of, say, Harold Abrahams. As for the Olympic guff about the amateur spirit and playing, not winning, being important, that has all but vanished.

And yet and yet. Here we are again celebrating a gathering revived by a Frenchman a century ago, that many might have predicted would by now *be dead on its feet. Olympic* contests in poetry and drama, for instance, have indeed died. There may be a hundred other world championships, and the crude nationalism to which the Olympics pander may be synthetic (until recently almost every Olympic star was trained in America or in *Russia). But the sporting* world is beating a path to Atlanta, as it did to Barcelona *and will do in 2000 to Sydney.* The yearning to congregate under the umbrella of history is potent.

Those of us educated to put our faith in brain rather than brawn still find it compelling to watch the human body strained to its utmost. We do not see the same compulsion in the unfolding of the double helix. Challenges to science have their Nobels. Challenges *to the human imagination* have their Oscars, Emmys and Bookers. But the test of physical strength through running, throwing and jumping remains a popular metaphor for the human struggle.

Man is a competitive animal, but of all his competitions, none is fiercer than the race against *the clock.* "If you can fill the unforgiving minute, with sixty seconds' worth of distance *run," was Kipling's exhorta*tion to his son. The clock is always ticking.

Some may loathe the athletocracy of the young. Others may ridicule the doped, tortured, unsexed bodies of the modern thoroughbred competitor. But we cannot take our eyes off a race *well run. As biologists and the* Guinness Book of Records attest, what distinguishes *Homo sapiens from* other animals is a relentless striving to improve physical performance. This improvement is more than just a metaphor. I believe it to be part and parcel of species confidence. *It is the* selfish gene at play. Through competition we do not just grow faster and stronger. We *sustain the hope that* we can also grow cleverer, richer, kinder and more secure.

That at least is enough to wake me for the mile.

DIARY

Stick it

THE DUKE of Edinburgh, who has been at the helm of Cowes Week for more than 30 years, has upset the yachting sponsors Skandia Life. He is refusing to carry a sticker bearing the company's logo on his boat.

Last year the Duke agreed grumpily to display the 2ft by 18in sticker proclaiming "Skandia Life Cowes Week" on the bow of his yacht, *Yeoman Twenty Eight*. But he threatened to think twice about attending the regatta if he was forced to compromise again. This *year, despite pleas from Skandia* Life, which provides more than £750,000 in sponsorship, he will be the one yachtsman *sans* sticker.

"It's not as if we are asking him to emblazon it across his forehead," complains a Skandia spokeswoman. "It's tasteful and not intended to get up the nose of the Royal Family. He has to realise that if there wasn't any sponsorship, the costs would be prohibitively high."

Yesterday, Buckingham Palace dismissed the whingeing: "The Royal Family does not indulge in commercial sponsorship."

● *Young Jack Churchill, great-grandson of the Prime Minister and son of Winston Churchill MP, has been learning journalism with the Ab Fab crowd at* Tatler. *"He's really good," drawled a hair-flicking staffer. "I've sent him to collect my dry cleaning. Such fun."*

Viva Diana

THE SPANISH press has whipped up excitement among property sharks in Majorca with a report that the Princess of Wales has been scouring the area for a hideaway, far from the camouflaged French journalists who invaded her holiday compound on Thursday.

The broadsheet newspaper ABC reports that she scoured the Majorcan coast for suitable villas recently with her great friend Lady Gossamer (sic) Somerset. What Lady Cosima makes of the claims remains to be seen — she was unavailable *for comment yesterday.* The paper claims that the Princess has set her heart on a vernacular country house set in 50 acres. Its one drawback: next-door neighbours include the overheated film star Michael Douglas.

"You're required to submit to a random drugs test"

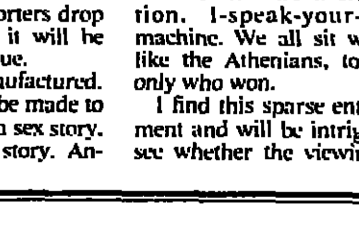
● *Latest sporting sensation from Japan is female sumo wrestling. The male sport has taken this new direction because the big boys who indulge in it are desperate to be recognised as Olympic sportsmen. To be included in the Olympics, sports must be open to both sexes. The British Sumo Association is on the case, desperate for its first women volunteers. "Sumo's based on chest power," explains Sid Hoare of the association. "Women would need a protective plate to shield their breasts."*

Phewitt

EYES SWIVELLED in the Grosvenor House hotel, London, when James Hewitt, former Guards officer and sometime paramour of the Princess of Wales, strolled *through the foyer on Thursday* night in a rare foray into public life. He attended a reception to help to raise money for the Riding for the Disabled Association.

Relaxing with fundraising ladies from the shires and an iced glass of *champagne Palmer, Hewitt chose* to ignore talk of the royal divorce and concentrate on the subject in hand: horses.

"It'll be damn hot for them in Atlanta," he conceded, "about as hot as it was when I played polo in Brunei — and that was bloody hot, I can tell you." He then turned to domestic affairs: "I'm still developing *my riding school in Devon.* Run into a spot of bother with the local planners but I'm sure we'll sort it out. It's a very exciting project."



Hewitt: planning difficulties

Euro bride

*PADDY ASHDOWN's enthusi*asm for Brussels is to be sealed with a European union. His daughter Kate, 31, is to marry a Frenchman, Sebastian Thearel, 26, on August 31 in a small village near the Ashdown holiday home in Burgundy.

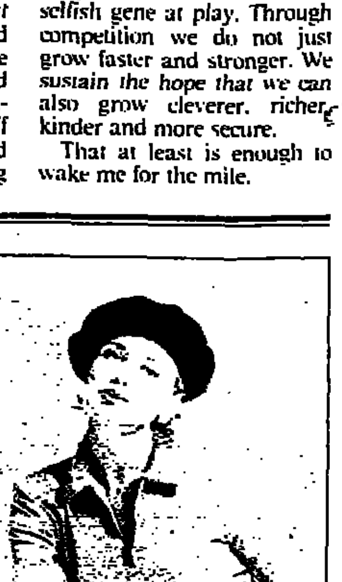
Paddy and his wife Jane are planning a three-week pre-nuptial *break at their retreat, but the Lib* Dem leader is reluctant to elaborate on the wedding. "Mr Ashdown does not discuss private affairs such as his daughter's marriage," says a po-faced minion. "It has nothing to do with anyone else."

Love all

SUMMER has brought an *irresistible bloom* to the sun-worn skin of Martina Navratilova, tennis superstar. After months of speculation, *she has spoken of her deep friend*ship with Hunter Reno, the niece of America's tough Attorney-General, Janet Reno.

Miss Navratilova, 39, admits she loves Miss Reno "in a way I haven't loved before" while Miss Reno, 27, *refers to the tennis* player as "a very special person". At Wimbledon, the two were spotted going gooey over each other. Only now, however, a year after meeting, have they admitted the true nature of their friendship.

As her name implies, Hunter is something of an Amazon: six feet tall with cropped blond hair and a modelling contract with L'Oreal. Aunt Janet, who is 6ft 2in, smokes pipes while a great-aunt wrestled alligators. Friends of Miss Hunter and the nine-times Wimbledon champion speak only of delirious happiness.



Hunter Reno: new pairing

P·H·S

BUSH WARFARE

Birt yet to convince his supporters, let alone his critics

The essence of John Birt's case for his reorganisation at the BBC is that public service broadcasting is too great a good to be relegated to a niche market. This the Director-General sees as its unavoidable fate unless it can compete effectively in the new digital, satellite and multimedia marketplaces.

Mr Birt has been wholly deliberate in seeking to revolutionise the culture of the BBC. The changes to management and programming in his first term were radical rather than evolutionary, largely driven by theory and contested by his opponents every step of the way. At the start of his second term, Mr Birt can point with pride to the BBC's success in renegotiating its Charter and, in contrast to public broadcasters in practically every other European country, holding its share of the audience.

Mr Birt's experience has given him ample reason to beware consultation. Advance warning has often reinforced resistance to change. His new plans, announced last month virtually without warning, will separate commissioning and production throughout the BBC and amalgamate news-producing and programme departments — thus concentrating its impressive productive capacity under one organisational roof. He admits that he anticipated opposition to his new plans and that this is why he gave even his most senior managers almost no notice of his decisions. He must be tempted, even now, to dismiss the ensuing uproar: what could be clearer evidence that Britain's broadcasters are world-class grousers, adept at deploying words such as quality, integrity or distinctiveness to justify the retention of inefficient producer cartels.

In one tiny and hitherto semi-detached islet in the BBC empire, however, such words cannot be dismissed so readily as the obfuscation of traditionalists. By the nature of its world audience, the news and programming requirements of the BBC World Service differ in important ways from those of the domestic service. It is separately funded, by the Foreign Office, and although it has long used, and paid for, domestic BBC facilities, it is separately staffed and controlled. It is a hybrid — for the historically good reasons that the service would lose credibility if it were directly controlled by government and the licence payers would be overcharged if they had to support a pillar of British foreign policy.

Last month, barely bothering to inform the Foreign Secretary, let alone World Service management, Mr Birt abruptly announced plans to merge the production of its English-language news, current affairs and general programmes within the new structures for the domestic BBC. The manner of this announcement was guaranteed to generate a row not merely within BBC ranks but outside them. A convincing public case became immediately necessary if the substance of his plans, not just their presentation, was not to be seen as flawed.

The World Service is indeed an anomaly; and it produces its fair share of programmes that could be improved. But it is not, on the face of it, extravagant. Despite a shrinking budget it is increasing its audience — from 133 million to 140 million in the past 12 months. Nor is it afraid to innovate; it showed less fear of "producer choice" principles than many parts of the domestic service. The product, as Mr Birt acknowledges, has a reputation for impartial, dependable coverage that is famous throughout the globe.

All organisations need change, but the World Service's deservedly high reputation places Mr Birt under a clear responsibility to convince doubters that his plans will preserve its editorial independence and identity. Even if, as he has promised, the World Service will retain control of commissioning, there is genuine ground for concern whether production teams whose primary task is to cater for the domestic BBC will be able to meet its editorial needs. Domestic programmers treat much foreign news like fire-fighters; the World Service method is steady, 24-hour, global coverage, often of events and processes that have no interest for British audiences.

Mr Birt has promised a separate World Service news-production unit. That is unlikely to compensate for the weakening of the links between Bush House's English-language service and its 42 foreign-language programmes. The close relationship between regional specialists and news and current affairs producers has always influenced its news judgments. There need to be compelling grounds for a divorce.

Mr Birt replies that Foreign Office cuts will leave a £10 million gap in two years between World Service revenues and costs, and that it "needs a more flexible, loose-limbed structure in the digital age" to add to its creativity while lowering costs. Maybe it does. But the digital age means little to most World Service listeners who are equipped with nothing more than the most primitive transistor radios. The World Service is small. Whatever defects it suffers from, Mr Birt should think as hard about how its virtues can be enhanced as its vices removed. He has yet to convince his supporters, let alone his critics, that his proposals will do more good than harm.

SWIFTER, HIGHER, DEARER

When clay pigeons were live and both hands held the javelin

The 24th modern Olympic Games opened last night on the centenary of their reinvention by Baron Pierre de Coubertin. Atlanta is five time zones behind London, which will test the endurance of British armchair sportsmen now abed. But it seems a world away from the first modern Olympiad.

In Athens in 1896 there were about 200 participants, all men, but nobody was counting. In 1996 there will be more than 10,000 young men and women. And those are just the journalists. Few of the competitors lead amateur lives away from the track, the pool and the rings. Then rowing was cancelled because of bad weather and cricket through lack of entries. In the Olympics' infancy there was live pigeon shooting, one-arm weight-lifting, the standing long-jump (after the Ancient Greeks) and swimming "for sailors".

Today the new sports introduced by the host city are beach volley ball and racing on mountain bikes. But the main difference between then and now is the zillion dollars spent and raised on staging the games that puts slogans on stadiums and athletes. The rights to broadcast this year's Olympics have so far raised $900 million. And it is estimated that 3½ billion people (two-thirds of mankind) will watch some part of the Games. They are no longer just about swifter, higher, stronger. They also grow ever bigger, richer and more political.

That need not spoil the essence of the Games. Beach volley ball is a good Olympic sport because it develops the whole physique. It is just a shame that awkwardness in the changing-room has stopped one country from sending its best male team: is this the new sport of transvestites? It is sad too that those freestyle swimming sailors from a century ago cannot meet today's beach volley ballers in an aquatic ballet that would be fit for choreography by Busby Berkeley.

It was the great BB's inspiration that made synchronised swimming an Olympic sport at Los Angeles. But almost a century ago they also competed at underwater swimming to see who could hold his breath longest. And in 1912 each competitor threw the javelin first with the right arm and then with the left, in order to produce a versatile human being. Olympian Zeus, in honour of whom the Games were founded, was just as ambidextrous with his thunderbolts. Observers of the heavy Atlantan climate predict that athletes will be hearing from Zeus themselves before the week is out.

PARADOX IN COURT

Have I Got A U-Turn For You

In an abrupt change of mind yesterday, a High Court judge lifted an order which for several weeks had prohibited the media from reporting a contempt of court case involving the television programme *Have I Got News For You*. The order was lifted at the request of *The Times* and while we are pleased at the lifting of the order, we are still left wondering why such a sweeping restriction could ever have been imposed.

Journalists can sometimes portray contempt of court cases as battles between benighted judges and noble scribes. Archaic figures in the mould of Mr Justice Cocklecarrot are caricatured as unreasonably restricting the historic freedoms of the press and prone to expressing themselves in impenetrable language comprehensible only to men in horsehair wigs. This case has not been so simple.

Six months before the trial of Kevin and Ian Maxwell in 1994, a piece of dialogue on *Have I Got News For You* described the brothers as "heartless scheming bastards" to an audience of just over six million people. In a perfect world, the 1981 Contempt of Court Act might include a "frivolity" defence along the lines that no one could possibly take such a remark seriously: flippant remarks in a comedy programme, unlikely ever to be believed, could not threaten the fairness of a trial. The Act, however, allows no such latitude. Thus the broadcast plainly breached the law. Both the BBC and the production company were fined.

Our complaint was directed at an accompanying order which barred reporting of any part of the contempt case on the grounds that another trial involving Kevin Maxwell and others opens later this year. The point of contempt of court legislation is to protect a trial from contamination. That seldom requires more than the surgical excision of words or pictures which could influence a jury. In this case, insulating the trial from unfair comment certainly did not require suppression of any mention of the action against the BBC. The solution was out of all proportion to the problem.

Yesterday Mr Justice Auld did not just reduce the scope of the reporting ban. He did away with it altogether. We had merely requested that, apart from the offending words themselves, we be allowed to report the case in the interests of open justice. Since the judge now appears to take the view that repeating *Have I Got News For You's* banter cannot do any damage, the question remains. What exactly was the fuss about in the first place?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Efficient energy at a fair cost

From Sir Frank Gibb, Chairman, The Energy Trust

Sir, With the world's environment ministers gathered at the United Nations Conference on the Climate Change Convention in Geneva to debate stricter targets for cutting carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions, it was heartening that the UK's Secretary of State for the Environment, John Gummer, spoke so positively (report, July 18, later editions; letters, June 14, 17, July 1) and particularly encouraging that the US Government has at last announced it is to take action.

But whilst the UK Government is making significant progress towards achieving the CO_2 reduction targets agreed at the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, it should not be forgotten that our energy regulators also have an environmental responsibility.

When the Energy Saving Trust was established post-Rio, to bring about carbon dioxide savings from energy consumption of domestic customers and small businesses, it was on the basis that consumers would finance energy-saving schemes via a small levy on their gas and electricity bills.

For electricity consumers the notion has worked well. Since April 1994 the equivalent of £1 per annum levy on customers has financed 228 energy-saving schemes. As well as reducing CO_2 emissions by more than 4 million tonnes over the lifetime of the investments, electricity customers who benefit from these schemes do so on average by £5 for every £1 of the levy invested.

Such success is in stark contrast to the limited progress this Trust has been able to make on behalf of gas consumers, where, because of the inflexible stance taken by the Director General for Ofgas, investment in energy efficiency has been restricted to just £4 million since 1993.

The considerable shortfall in funding that results from Ofgas's stance has partly been addressed by the Government's provision of £25 million to be spent on energy-efficiency schemes by the Trust in 1995-96, and £15 million and £10 million in the following two years. This is small change compared to the funds the Government expected to be raised for energy saving when it joined forces with major energy companies to establish the Trust.

As most commentators agree, the opening of the domestic energy markets will not initially lead to a greater emphasis on energy efficiency. Inevitably, the emphasis will be on low prices, with little concern for energy efficiency and the economic and environmental benefits that it provides. In view of the proposed CO_2 reductions by 2010, there can be little doubt that further support and funding for the Trust's objectives are needed now.

Further falls in the real price of energy, though welcome on a number of counts, will not help us meet our environmental commitments. The time is therefore right for the Government and the energy regulators to reconsider the depth and extent of their responsibilities and for them to realise that *these go far beyond achieving the lowest possible unit price.*

Yours sincerely,
FRANK GIBB, Chairman,
The Energy Saving Trust,
11-12 Buckingham Gate, SW1.
July 18.

From Professor Ian Fells, FEng, FRSE

Sir, It is difficult to reconcile the Secretary of State for the Environment's laudable exhortation to the nations meeting in Geneva to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as we proceed into the next century, with the President of the Board of Trade's exposure of the newly privatised nuclear industry of the UK to the vagaries of the market place (reports, July 16).

Nuclear power plays a vital role in keeping UK carbon dioxide emissions down, but the management of British Energy has indicated that it has no plans at the present time to build any more nuclear power stations.

Not only that but the Government Energy Paper 65 (HMSO, 1995) points out that with present policy, by 2020 only one nuclear station, Sizewell B, will still be in production; 60 per cent of UK electricity will be provided by gas and consequently greenhouse gas (carbon dioxide) emissions will have increased by 16 per cent.

There is no better illustration that some sort of UK energy strategy is required if we are to balance UK electricity supply with our international environmental obligations. The lack of an equivalent transport policy will *only exacerbate the situation.*

Yours faithfully,
IAN FELLS,
University of Newcastle,
Department of Chemical
and Process Engineering,
Merz Court,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU.
July 18.

Risks of ID cards

From Mr P. G. B. Wills

Sir, I gather from Ms Liz Parratt's letter (July 18) that Liberty (formerly the National Council for Civil Liberties) wishes to deny me the freedom to carry an ID card if I want to.

Whatever next?

Yours faithfully,
P. G. B. WILLS,
Far Horizons,
Haytor, Newton Abbot, Devon.
July 19.

'Obsessions' of a Victorian artist

From Mr Bernard Dunstan, RA

Sir, Anyone who knows Sickert's work well will be very sceptical about the latest revelation by Dr Anna Greutzner Robins (report and picture, July 15) of his "obsession" with sexual violence.

Certainly he painted scenes in which prostitutes figured: so did Degas and Lautrec. As for "images of exposed genitalia" in the drawings, I would have thought that these were less noticeable in Sickert's oeuvre than in that of, for example, Picasso or Courbet or even Turner. All these great artists had a wide range of subject-matter — as did Sickert — and in no way can this aspect of their work be labelled an "obsession".

The Camden Town Murder, with its associated drawings, is, I suppose, the picture particularly referred to; but Sickert was famously in the habit of playing about with his titles (sometimes to irritate Roger Fry, as he said himself). Alternative titles for this picture were *What Shall We Do for the Rent?* and *La Belle Gâtée — The Lovely Spoiled* [or *Tainted?*] *Woman.* Neither seems to have much to do with violence.

The example you reproduce, the beautiful drawing titled here *Persuasion*, is about as unconvincing an example of an "obsession with violence, perversion and mutilation" as could be imagined.

The figures are obviously embracing; the woman would hardly be submitting to strangulation with her head comfortably supported, nor would the *man get far in strangling her using* only one hand.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD DUNSTAN,
10 High Park Road,
Kew, Richmond, Surrey.
July 15.

From Mr Huon Mallalieu

Sir, Dr Greutzner Robins is a highly respected researcher upon whose work I, like many other British art historians, have often depended. However, the interpretation of the visual evidence of Sickert's drawing, *Persuasion*, which you attribute to her today, does not convince.

Neither of the man's hands, as I see it, can be around the prostitute's neck. The left must logically be behind her right shoulder, the right below her left breast, probably in the region of her armpit. Her own left hand supports her head, and her whole pose is relaxed. Far from attacking her, the man is virtually inert. If anyone in this drawing is saying "No", it is him not her.

Sickert may indeed have been obsessed with the Camden Town murder and Jack the Ripper; but here he (and his title) surely show how the girl's professional persuasion of the man might have led to his loss of control and her death.

This is not to defend the real or imagined man, rather to defend the artist from an unjustifiable accusation of sleaziness.

Yours &c,
HUON MALLALIEU,
100 Mortimer Road, N1.
July 15.

From Chief Inspector J. I. Miller

Sir, Once again the name of Sickert seems to be being linked, albeit at one remove and without the slightest shred of evidence, to the Whitechapel murders.

If a credible suspect is to be named, then that dubious honour should fall on one William Henry Bury — a man who had motive, opportunity, a proven record of violence towards women and, unlike any of the other suspects, can be shown to have fled from the East End at the conclusion of the Ripper murders, only to commit his final killing in Dundee within days of his arrival there.

Sickert is in the clear!

Yours etc,
J. I. MILLER,
Tayside Police,
Police Headquarters,
Dundee, Tayside.
July 15.

Legal aid changes

From Mr Gordon Glass

Sir, Professor Michael Zander's sensible article on the proposed changes to legal aid ("More peace for the wicked", Law, July 9) assumes that losing litigants who will be obliged to pay their opponent's full legal costs are homeowners. I wonder how Lord Mackay proposes that this debt should be recovered from litigants without assets if they lose and cannot pay the costs — by sending them to prison instead?

The proposed changes will simply drive even more people to use the European Court of Human Rights, which works on the principle that the courts need to be accessible to everyone, regardless of wealth.

Yours faithfully,
G. GLASS
(Director),
2020 Vision Ltd,
PO Box 1967, Bath BA2 9YD.
July 9.

From Mr W. H. Hatcher

Sir, Professor Michael Zander states in his article that the overall success rate of legally-aided civil actions is 92 per cent.

Most practising lawyers will not be surprised at a very high percentage success rate, bearing in mind that legal aid gives an enormous tactical advantage to the legally-aided party. As a result of this the other party, if not legally aided, will usually be very strongly advised to give in at an early stage.

It would be interesting to know the overall success rate of legally-aided civil actions if the only actions taken for the purposes of the sample were those where the case had been fully heard and decided by the court on merit.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. HATCHER,
Hatcher Rogerson (solicitors),
25 Castle Street,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
July 10.

Pub names

From Mr Laurence Evans

Sir, I trust that Nicholas Winterton, MP, and the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) will have better luck than I in the campaign to ensure the safety of historic names of pubs (report, July 17; letter, July 18).

Several years ago I submitted a proposal to the Department of the Environment that planning authorities should be given the power to refuse permission for alterations to significant signs. Regrettably, no action was taken.

The source of my anxiety at the time was an old toll house pub near where I live whose name, "The Gate", was changed to the totally meaningless "The Garden Gate".

With this cruel assassination of a piece of history also disappeared the legend on the reverse side of the sign:

This gate hangs well
And hinders none
Refresh and pay
And travel on

Mr Winterton could well bear in mind, on this occasion, the value of retrospective legislation.

Yours truly,
LAURENCE EVANS,
Quill Lodge,
Wyatts Road, Chorleywood,
Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.
July 18.

From Mr Denis Cox

Sir, The suggestion in your report that the Hare and Billet is a contrived pub name is deeply offensive to all of us who regularly drink at the Hare and Billet in Blackheath. The name has belonged to this pub since at least the 1740s, when it is mentioned in the Newgate Calendar as a rendezvous for local highwaymen.

I have every sympathy for Mr Winterton's and CAMRA's campaign, but we cannot allow the name of our much loved local to be associated with a Slug and Lettuce.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS COX,
13 Eliot Vale, SE3.
July 17.

Postal puzzle

From Mrs C. M. McLean

Sir, Mr Philip Mayes (letter, July 15) asks how many of the new £1 books of stamps (containing three 26p, one 20p and two 1p stamps) must be purchased to post an exact number of first-class letters.

Unfortunately, no such number exists. However many books are bought, the use of 1p stamps to convert 20p to 26p postage also introduces more and more "useless" 20p stamps.

The only practical solution is to relegate two in every 12 letters to the second-class post.

Yours sincerely,
CATHERINE M. McLEAN,
Greenways,
Burfield Road, Chorleywood,
Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.
July 15.

From Mr Adrian Brodkin

Sir, If Philip Mayes is content to send part of his mail by second-class post, he merely has to purchase ten of the new stamp books, which will enable him to send 30 letters first class and a further 11 second class.

Since I have faith in neither, I am sending this letter by fax.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN BRODKIN,
93 Kingsley Way, N2.
July 15.

From Mr Christopher McDouall

Sir, The answer to how many new £1 books of stamps one must buy to use all the stamps in them on first-class letters is two.

Just send one first-class letter weighing between 600g and 700g.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER McDOUALL,
119 Thornton Road, Cambridge.
July 15.

Weekend Money letters, page 37

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Price of losing the princess as patron

From Mr Pat Spooner

Sir, As the co-founder, in 1987, of the Covent Garden Festival, I was gratified by the Princess of Wales's prompt acceptance of my invitation for her to be our patron. Her presence at gala performances greatly stimulated ticket sales and her patronage did more than anything else to put the festival firmly on the map.

The Royal Family's willingness to lend their practical and highly productive, not merely their moral, support to good causes of all kinds has never ceased to astonish me. Having for many years directed and advised on major appeals for cathedrals, hospitals and a variety of others patronised by royalty I can vouch for its immeasurable value.

The Princess's decision to relinquish her patronage (reports, July 17) is perfectly understandable under the circumstances, but it is, nonetheless, hardly surprising that so many of the charities now deprived of it should declare their disappointment and dismay.

Yours sincerely,
A. P. SPOONER,
22 Broadwater Rise,
Guildford, Surrey.
July 17.

From Mr Philip Jones

Sir, With the sadness and regrets over the royal divorce, there is added shock and surprise at the "decision" by the Princess of Wales to relinquish her service commitments as Colonel in Chief.

With one infantry battalion, a cavalry regiment and a squadron of jump jets, she hardly poses a threat to the monarchy; but her presence has been incalculable for morale, and the fact that she will no longer be Her Royal Highness should not preclude her and her regiments from continuing to enjoy links which are essentially of a family nature.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
PHILIP JONES (Lieutenant,
13th/18th Royal Hussars, 1952-53),
Clermont Hall,
Little Cressingham,
Thetford, Norfolk.
July 15.

From Mr M. C. J. Kidby

Sir, Who will pay for the new letter headings of the charities that Princess Diana no longer patronises?

Yours faithfully,
M. C. J. KIDBY,
24 Mitchell's Road,
Haylands, Ryde, Isle of Wight.
July 17.

'Tax on reading'

From Mr P. H. Acheson-Gray

Sir, I cannot agree with the editors of *Tribune* and the *Literary Review* (letter, July 8) that a charge by one retail organisation on a small part of its turnover amounts to "a tax on reading", any more than it would on the selling prices of their own publications.

Moreover, the response they propose, that of urging the public to buy books and magazines elsewhere, seems to me, as someone unconnected with W H Smith, to be likely to exacerbate the very market situation which no doubt prompted the charge in the first place.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK ACHESON-GRAY,
Severn House,
Eriswell Crescent, Burwood Park,
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.
July 9.

Griddle riddle

From Mr Raymond Harris

Sir, I find it hard to believe that Mrs Shelagh Hargraves's great aunt (letter, July 18; see also letter, July 15) would ever have eaten scones other than with butter; but may we please know how she pronounced "margarine".

Yours truly,
RAYMOND HARRIS,
Savage Club, 1 Whitehall Place, SW1.
July 18.

From Mrs Angela M. Willbourn

Sir, Surely the definitive *wrong* pronunciation of "scone" is given in Sir John Betjeman's satirical *How to get on in Society*, first published in a *Time and Tide* magazine competition in the early 1950s.

The last four lines are:

Milk and then just as it comes dear?
I'm afraid the preserve's full of stones:
Beg pardon, I'm soiling the doilies
With afternoon teacakes and scones.

Yours faithfully,
ANGELA M. WILLBOURN,
Aston Cottage, Aston,
Nr Stevenage, Hertfordshire.
July 18.

Ball point

From Mr James M. Burns

Sir, Your article on the popular Italian golfer Costantino Rocca (Sport, July 17), tells us: "He also signed autographs by the dozen — it is, incidentally, a signature that is bold, sweeping and exuberant, written *con brio.*" Surely, "*con Biro*"?

Yours faithfully,
J. M. BURNS,
26 Whitehall Park Road, W4.
July 18.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 19: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning arrived at Bristol Temple Meads Station and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Bristol (Mr James Tidmarsh).

Her Majesty drove to Aardman Animations Limited and was received by Mr Peter Lord (Director) and the Lord Mayor of Bristol (Councillor Mrs Joan McLaren).

The Queen saw excerpts from the Oscar winning films of Nick Park and other work of the company.

Her Majesty afterwards toured the building, viewing films in production, and unveiled the Cinema 100 Centenary plaque.

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, later visited the new Ministry of Defence Procurement Executive Building at Abbey Wood and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire (Mr Henry Elwes), the Rt Hon Michael Portillo MP (Secretary of State for Defence) and Sir Robert Walmsley (Chief of Defence Procurement).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness toured the building, visiting the nursery unit, viewing displays on purchasing work for the Armed Services and meeting members of staff.

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, afterwards honoured Sir Robert Walmsley with her presence at Luncheon.

Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness, this afternoon officially opened the Abbey Wood building and witnessed a flypast.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning opened the Faculty of Engineering Merchant Venturers Building, Bristol University.

The Baroness Miller of Hendon (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon upon the Departure of The President of the Republic of Iceland and bade farewell to Her Excellency on behalf of The Queen.

The Lord Lucas of Crudwell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon upon the Departure of the Governor-General of Tuvalu and Lady Manuella and bade farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 19: The Prince Edward, Chairman of the International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, this evening left Manston International Airport, Kent, for Malta.

On arrival in Malta His Royal Highness was received by the British High Commissioner (His Excellency Mr Graham Archer).

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer is in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 19: The Princess Royal, Member of the International Olympic Committee, and President, British Olympic Association, this evening attended the Opening Ceremony of the XXVI Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America.

CLARENCE HOUSE
July 19: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, this afternoon arrived at Walmer Castle.

The Hon Mrs Rhodes and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 19: The Prince of Wales this morning arrived at Royal Air Force Lyneham from the United States of America.

Mr Stephen Lamport, Lieutenant Commander John Lavery RN and Miss Sandra Henney were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 19: The Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by The Duchess of Gloucester, this afternoon took the Salute at a performance of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court, London SW5.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 19: The Duke of Kent, President, Action Japan, this afternoon received Mr Toyoshima, Director General, Japanese External Trade Relations Office, at Kingsgate House, Victoria Street, London SW1.

His Royal Highness, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this afternoon attended an Away Day, St Ermin's Hotel, Caxton Street, London, SW1.

Royal engagements

TODAY: The Duke of York will attend the Open Golf Championship at the Royal Lytham and St Annes Club at 11.30.

TOMORROW: The Duke of York will open the World Wheelchair Games at the Guttmann Sports Centre, Stoke Mandeville, at 2.30.

Latest wills

Mr Edward Eastaway **Thomas**, of Chichester, West Sussex, naval intelligence expert and historian, one of the team which broke Axis *Enigma cyphers and supplied the* Allied Intelligence system codenamed Ultra which helped to win the Second World War, left estate valued at £421,007 net.
He left £1,000 each to the Edward Thomas Fellowship, Musicians' Benevolent Fund, Civil Servants' Benevolent Fund, Benslow Music Trust and Salvation Army.

Mr Peter Bernard **Samuelson** of Shenington, Oxfordshire, the painter and diarist, left estate valued at £343,569 net.

Baron Jay of Battersea, of Minster Lovell, Oxfordshire, President, Board of Trade 1964-67, Labour MP for Battersea North 1946-83, *left estate valued at £196,159 net.*
He left £500 each to Battersea United Charities and Battersea Labour Party.

Sir Dick Goldsmith **White**, of Arundel, West Sussex, formerly of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, left estate valued at £100,040 gross, net same.

Sir Ralph Melton **Bateman**, of Wilmslow, Cheshire, industrialist and President, Confederation of British Industry, 1974-76, left estate valued at £148,995 net.

Dinners

Royal College of Radiologists

Dr Patricia Wilkie delivered the 40th Crookshank lecture to the Royal College of Radiologists yesterday at the Royal College of Physicians. Professor Albert Baert, *Professor Lynne Reid, Sir James* Savile and Sir Richard Southwood were admitted as Honorary Fellows. Afterwards, Dr Wilkie was the guest of honour at a dinner held at 38 Portland Place. The President of the Royal College of Radiologists and Mrs Brindle were the hosts.

Institute of Legal Executives

The Institute of Legal Executives held an inauguration reception and dinner last night at the *Marriott Hotel, Leeds, for the* newly-elected president, Mr Anthony Webster. Mr G Phinn, Principal Inspector of Schools, was the guest speaker. Among those present were:
Mr Justice and Lady Holland, District Judge Buchanan, District Judge Ellison, *Mr T Lamb, the President of* the Leeds Law Society and the President of the Bradford Law Society.

University news

Manchester

Appointments to Chairs:

Norman Jeffrey **Wood**, at present Senior Lecturer in Aerospace Engineering in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Bath University, to be Beyer Professor of Aerospace Engineering in the Manchester School of Engineering from a date to be arranged.

Andrew **Yee-Tak Leung**, at present Reader in Civil and Structural Engineering, Hong Kong University, to be Professor of Engineering in the Manchester School of Engineering from a date to be arranged.

Jan Robert **Wright**, at present Senior Lecturer in Engineering at the university, to be Professor of Mechanical Engineering in the Manchester School of Engineering from July 1, 1996.

John **Gledhill**, at present Reader in Social Anthropology in University College London, to be Professor of Social Anthropology in the Department of Social Anthropology from a date to be arranged.

Anne **Charlton**, at present Cancer Research *Campaign Reader in Cancer* Health Education at the university, to be Professor of Cancer Health Education in the School of Epidemiology and Health Sciences from July 1, 1996.

Geoffrey **Thornton**, at present Reader in Chemistry at the university, to be Professor of Surface Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry from July 1, 1996.

Nicholas John **Higham**, at present Reader in Mathematics at the university, to be Professor of Applied Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics from July 1, 1996.

Honorary professorial appointments:

Professor S Gordon **Redding** to be Visiting Professor of Comparative Management in the Manchester Business School, for three years from May 1, 1996.

Emeritus Professor T.N. **Tozer** to be Visiting Professor in the Department of Pharmacy for three years from May 1, 1996

*Mr A.J. **Mills** to be Honorary Visiting* Professor in the Programme of Policy Research in Engineering, Science, and Technology for three years from May 1, 1996.

Appointments

Dr Neil Grant **Anderson** to be Lecturer in Surgical Sciences in the Department of Surgery from May 1, 1996.

Dr Niloy **Bose** to be Lecturer in Economics from August 1, 1996.

Mr Peter David **Cooke** to be Lecturer in French Studies from August 1, 1996.

Mr Martin Paul Vernon **Crowley** to be Lecturer in French Studies from March 15, 1996.

Dr Neil **Pendleton**, Senior Lecturer (in lieu of Clinical Lecturer) in Geriatric Medicine from May 1, 1996.

Mr Richard **Seeley** to be Personnel Officer (Data Management) in the Office of the Director of Personnel, Registrar, and Secretary's Department, from May 1, 1996.

Mr Isaac Stern, the violinist: 76 tomorrow

Dame Diana Rigg, the actress, is 58 today

Weekend birthdays

TODAY: The Marquess of Aberdeen and Temair, 76; Sir Christopher Benson, chairman, Sun Alliance Group, 63; Lady Margaret Colville, 78; Professor Sir John Dacie, haematologist, 84; M Jacques Delors, former President, Commission of the European Community, 71; Sir Antony Driver, former chairman, South West Thames Regional Health Authority, 76; Mr E.O.M. Eilledge, chairman, BTR, 61; General Sir Jack Harman, 76; Mrs Sylvia Heal, former MP, 54; Sir Edmund Hillary, KG, first man to reach the summit of Mount Everest, 77; Mr Edward Leigh, MP, 46; Lord McGowan, 58; Mr Charlie Magri, boxer, 40; Miss Elizabeth Manners, former Headmistress, Felixstowe College, 79; Lord Palumbo, 61; Sir Jeffrey Petersen, former diplomat, 76; Mr Walter Plowright, veterinarian, 73; Mr Michael Quinn, chef, 50; Mr A.J.D. Rees, former Rector, Edinburgh Academy, 53; Viscount Simon, 56; Viscount Slim, 69; Miss Elizabeth Tucker, Headmistress, Headington School, Oxford, 60; Dame Veronica Wedgwood, OM, historian, 86; Mr John Whyte, former managing director, British Telecom, 73.

TOMORROW: Professor Heather Angel, wildlife photographer, 55; Professor Frank Ashley, Dean of the Dental School, United Medical and Dental Schools, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals, 54; Dom Aidan Bellenger, former Head Master, Downside School, 46; Sir Nigel Broackes, former honorary president, Trafalgar House, 62; Sir Andrew Buchanan, Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, 59; Mr John Burrow, Chief Constable, Essex, 61; Dame Joyce Daws, thoracic surgeon, 71; Sir Stephen Egerton, former diplomat, 64; Miss Buchi Emecheta, writer, 52; Canon Donald Gray, Speaker's Chaplain, 66; Mr Norman Jewison, film director, 70; Mr Ian Judge, theatre director, 50; Sir Kirby Laing, former chairman, Laing Properties, 80; Mr Gerald Malone, MP, 46; Dr Jonathan Miller, film, theatre and opera director, 62; Mr R.S. Napier, chief executive, Redland, 49; Major-General the Duke of Norfolk, KG, 81; Mr Bill Pertwee, actor, 70; Mr Julian Pettifer, broadcaster, 61; Lieutenant-General Sir Steuart Pringle, 68; Mr Karel Reisz, film director, 70; Mr Michael St John Parker, Headmaster, Abingdon School, 55; Mr D.J. Trevelyan, former Principal, Mansfield College, Oxford, 67; Mr Robin Williams, actor and comedian, 44; Sir Ian Wood, chairman, John Wood Group, 54; Mr Peter Wright, former Chief Constable, South Yorkshire, 67.

Church of Scotland

Ordinations and inductions

The Rev James Bain to St Paul's, Forth.

The Rev Mitchell Collins to Creich, Flisk & Kilmany with Monimail.

The Rev Glenda Keating to Kirkliston, Edinburgh.

The Rev Thomas J R MacKinnon to Glassary and Kilmartin.

The Rev Elizabeth Smith to St Mark's, Drumchapel.

Ordination

The Rev Fiona C Ross, assistant to Beith High with Trinity.

Induction

The Rev Robert F Bardin to Portland, Troon.

The Rev Roderick G Hamilton, assistant at Greenbank to Abbotsford, Clydebank.

The Rev Ian D Maxwell to Kirk O'Field, Edinburgh.

The Rev Leonard P McClenaghan to Trinity, Peterhead.

Retirements

The Rev Dr William Henney from Hope Park, St Andrews.

The Rev Colin C R MacPherson from St Margaret's, Dunfermline.

The Rev Robert C White from Thornhill.

Weekend anniversaries

TODAY

BIRTHS: Petrarch, poet, Arezzo, Italy, 1304; Hans Willem Bentinck, 1st Earl of Portland, statesman, Holland, 1649; Sir Richard Owen, biologist, Newtown, Powys, 1804; Sir James Phillips Kay-Shuttleworth, philanthropist and educator, Rochdale, 1804; John Sterling, writer, Kames Castle, Island of Bute, 1806; Margaret McMillan, educationist, Westchester, New York, 1860; Erick Karlfeldt, poet, Nobel laureate 1931, Folkärne, Sweden, 1864; John Charles Reith, 1st Baron Reith, 1st Director-General of the BBC 1927-38, Stonehaven, Grampian, 1889; Natalie Wood, actress, 1938.

DEATHS: Hugh O'Neill, 2nd Earl of Tyrone, Rome, 1616; Catherine Anne Southey, poet, Lymington, Hampshire, 1854; Sir Richard Wallace, collector of works of art, Paris, 1890; Andrew Lang, scholar, collector of fairy stories, Banchory, Grampian, 1912; Pancho Villa, revolutionary, assassinated, Parral, Mexico, 1923; Guglielmo Marconi, physicist, Nobel laureate 1909, Rome, 1937; Sir Dan Godfrey, conductor, Bournemouth, 1939; Paul Valéry, poet, Paris, 1945; King Abdullah of Jordan, reigned 1928-51, assassinated, Jerusalem, 1951; Iain Macleod, politician, 1970; Charles Mark Boxer (Marc), cartoonist, 1988.

The Spanish Armada set sail for England from Corunna, 1588.

Euston station was opened, 1837.

Attempted assassination of Hitler by Count Claus von Stauffenberg, who was executed, 1944.

The Turkish invasion of Cyprus began, 1974.

TOMORROW

BIRTHS: Jean Picard, astronomer, La Flèche, France, 1620; Matthew Prior, poet, Wimborne, Dorset, 1664, Elizabeth Hamilton, writer, Belfast, 1758; Paul von Reuter, founder of the news agency, Kassel, Germany, 1816; Hart Crane, poet, Garrettsville, Ohio, 1899; Ernest Hemingway, writer, Nobel laureate 1954, Oak Park, Illinois, 1899.

DEATHS: Robert Burns, poet, *Dumfries, 1796; Dame Ellen* Terry, actress, Hythe, 1928; Sir Herbert Barker, manipulative surgeon, Lancaster, 1950; George Macaulay Trevelyan, historian, 1962; Albert Luthuli, President of the African National Congress *1952-60, Nobel Peace laureate 1960,* Stanger, South Africa, 1967; Basil Rathbone, actor, New York, 1967.

Confederate victory in the first battle of Bull Run in the American Civil War, 1861.

The Tate Gallery opened, 1897.

Trans-Siberian railway completed after 13 years' work, 1904.

Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon (Apollo XI mission), 1969.

Reception

Staffordshire Lieutenancy

The Deputy Lieutenants of Staffordshire last night entertained the Lord-Lieutenant and Mrs Hawley at a summer cocktail party held at Chartley Hall, Stafford, by courtesy of Mr and Mrs D.E.D. Johnson. Lieutenant-Colonel D.J.K. German, Vice-Lord-Lieutenant, presided.

Forthcoming marriages

**Mr G.J. Aleppo
and Miss A.B. Dobbie**

The engagement is announced between Gerry, son of Mrs Margaret Aleppo, of Beckenham, Kent, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs Scott Dobbie, of Moor Park, Hertfordshire.

**Mr M.F.J. Atherley
and Miss L. Froes**

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Wing Commander and Mrs D.M.K. Atherley, of Horsham, West Sussex, and Luciana, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Helio Froes, of Porto Alegre, Brazil.

**Mr T.G. Bennett
and Miss K.I.M. Thompson**

The engagement is announced between Graham, son of Mr Trevor Bennett and Mrs Susannah Bennett, of Glengormley, Co Antrim, and Katharine Inge Mary, elder daughter of Major and Mrs *James Thompson*, of Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.

**Mr S.L. Buckley
and Miss C.J.A. Rogers**

The engagement is announced between Shaun, son of Mr and Mrs D.L. Buckley, of Ingbirchworth, *Sheffield*, Yorkshire, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs S.E. Rogers, of Ufton Nervet, Reading, Berkshire.

**Mr C.K. Crossley Cooke
and Miss A-K.R. Pringle**

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs David Crossley Cooke, of Little Coxwell, Oxfordshire, and Anna-Kaarina, daughter of Mr David Pringle, of London, and Mrs Kaarina Pringle, of Niinivesi, Finland.

**Mr T.R.K. Fielding
and Miss L.C. Burne**

The engagement is announced between Tim, son of Mr Richard Fielding and the late Mrs Fielding, of Longburton, Dorset, and Lucy, daughter of Mr Simon Burne, of Charlton, Wiltshire, and Mrs Eugenie Burne, of Bratton, Wiltshire.

**Mr J.M. Ford
and Miss K.A. Farquharson**

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, younger son of Mr and Mrs P.C. Ford, of Little Ellingham, Norfolk, and Keri, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Farquharson, of Hingham, Norfolk.

**Mr T. Gemmell
and Miss L. Kaye**

The engagement is announced between Toby, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Gemmell, of Brentwood, Essex, and Louise, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Alan Kaye, of Wantage, Oxfordshire.

**Mr T. Leith
and Miss J.F. Alexander**

The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs William Leith, of Pewsey, *Wiltshire, and Jane Frances*, daughter of Mr and Mrs Utrick Alexander, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

**Mr O.J.F. Lewis
and Miss D.L. Aspinall**

The engagement is announced between Oliver, elder son of Dr Peter Lewis, of Oxford and Mrs Peter Lewis, of Paris, and Debra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Aspinall, of Standish, Lancashire.

**Mr G.H.M. Morley-Fletcher
and Miss I. Lemoine**

The engagement is announced between Gifford, son of Mr Hugo Morley-Fletcher, of Padbury, *Buckinghamshire*, and Mrs Jeremy Hebblethwaite, of Evenley, Northamptonshire, and Isabelle, elder daughter of M Patrick Lemoine, of St Cyprien, France, and the late Mme Fabienne Lemoine.

**Mr A.J. Thompson
and Miss J. Herbert-Burns**

The engagement is announced between Alexander James, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Thompson, of Lorgues, France, and Justine, daughter of Mr Hugh Herbert-Burns, of New York, USA, and Mrs Naiad Ellis, of Stroud, Gloucestershire.

**Mr W.G. Tucker
and Miss K.V. Armitage**

The engagement is announced between Warren, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Tucker, of Kingswood, Surrey, and Katie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs George Armitage, of Doncaster, Yorkshire.

Marriages

**Mr C.M. Singer
and Miss L.A. Peterson**

The marriage took place on July 13, at Rancho Valencia, California, of Mr Charles Singer, son of Mr Alfred Singer and the late *Gwendoline Singer, to Miss Lisa* Peterson, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Jon R. Peterson.

**Mr C. Watts
and Miss S. Sheridan**

The marriage took place on Saturday, July 6, at All Saints Church, Bradbourne, of Mr Christopher Watts, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Watts, of North Walsham, Norfolk, to Miss Siobhan Sheridan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Maurice Sheridan, of North Finchley. The Rev Mike Smith officiated.

The bride was attended by Alexander and Joshua Watts, Siobhan and Kathryn Sheridan and Elizabeth Allott. Mr Michael Fowler was best man.

State Opening of Parliament

The Queen will open Parliament at 11.30am on Wednesday, October 23, 1996.

Peers who will be present at the ceremony may apply for places in the Chamber for their peeresses or husbands, and for eldest sons or daughters above 14 years of age.

A limited number of seats in the Royal Gallery will be available for guests of members of both Houses of Parliament. Members of the House *of Commons should apply for these seats to the Speaker's* Secretary, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

Applications from peers, using the forms issued to *those eligible, should be sent* to the Secretary to the Lord Great Chamberlain, House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW, by Friday, September 27, 1996.

Church services tomorrow

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

ABERDEEN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch (Merbecke), The Provost; 6.30 EP.

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 S Euch, Tyebye Poyem (Labinski), Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Christus factus est (Bruckner); 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Leighton), Coll Reg (Howells), The Twelve (Walton).

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch, *Blair in G, O taste and see* (Vaughan Williams), Ave verum (Elgar), The Provost; 4 Choral E, Responses (Sanders), Dyson in D, What are these that glow from afar? (Gray).

BANGOR CATHEDRAL: 8, 5 H Euch; 9.45 MP; 11 HC, Metrical Gloria (Camberwell), Sanctus & Benedictus (Merbecke).

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 11 H Euch, Missa Brevis de Sancti Joannis de Deo (Haydn), Canon A E Pierce; 3.30 E, The New College Service (Howells), Praise the Lord O my soul (Goss).

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: *8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S* Euch, Missa Sine Nomine (Tallis), Ave Verum (Hendrie), *Rev Professor Harman Smith*; 3.15 E, Responses (Doveton), Moore in A, Throw away thy rod (Ferguson); 6.30 Compline, Rev Dr M J Chandler.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Canon D Jackson; 3 E.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, The *Fruit of the Spirit*, Revd J Jones; 11.15 Euch, Revd I Moody; 2, 4 Baptism; 6 E, Responses (Said), Canon B Thompson.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, Mass in G (Poulenc), Bishop C Bennetts; 11.30 Choral M, Responses (Ayleward), Before thy throne (Boyle), Canon O Conway; 3.30 Summer Music Festival E, Responses (Neary), Above all praise/Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn), Mendelssohn in B flat, Bishop C Bennetts, Amen (Naylor); 6.30 ES, The Dean.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: *8 HC*, Responses (Byrd); 10 M, Stanford in G, O Lord increase our faith (Loosemore), Ven C M Pinder; 11 S Euch, Schubert in G, *Let all mortal flesh* (Bairstow), Rt Rev M Manktelow; 3.30 E, Responses (Byrd), Hawes in D, O be joyful in the Lord (Walton).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC, Canon Ward; 10 M; 11.15 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Lord not to us (Henderson), Archdeacon of Oxford; 6 E, Stanford in G, And when the builders (Shepherd).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Darke in F, O Lord give thy Holy Spirit (Tallis), Zadok the Priest (Handel), Ave verum (Elgar), Canon P Oestreicher; 5.30 E, Sing we merrily (Batten), Responses (Tomkins), Second Service (Leighton), Earth's Easter Song (Leddington Wright).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8, 11.15 HC, Mass in five parts (Byrd), Ego sum panis vivus, Canon M Perry; 10 M, Stanford in A, O sing joyfully *(Batten), Rev M Parker; 3.30 E, Dyson in D, Blest* pair of sirens (Parry).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC, Rev Canon J Inge; 10.30 S Euch, Gloria (Jones), Missa Sancti Botolphi (Hand), Ubi caritas (Berthier), Hymn to the Sacred Heart (Jones), Rev Canon J Inge; 3.45 E, Preces (Byrd), Brewer in D, The Fair Chivalry (Ashfield).

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Sacerdotes Domini (Byrd), Jackson in G, Beati quorum via (Stanford), Preb P Stephens; 11.15 *M, Responses (Radcliffe), Stanford in B flat, Like* as the hart (Howells), Sub Dean; 3 E, Responses (Radcliffe), Kelly in C, Give unto the Lord (Elgar); 6.30 ES, Turn back O man (Holst), The Dean.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 8, 12.15 HC; 10.15 Euch, Missa Brevis in D (Mozart), The Dean; 3 E, Stanford in C, For lo I raise up Stanford.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30 Euch, Santo santo santo (El Salvador), The Provost; 4 EP.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mass in C (Mozart), Os justi meditabitur (Bruckner), O salutaris hostia (Elgar), The Precentor; 3.30 E, Responses (Leighton), The St Augustine's Service (Howells), Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf (Bach).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo, O sacrum convivium (Tallis), Rev R Miller; 11.15 M, Responses (Reading), Ireland in F, The Lord hath been mindful (Wesley), Canon G Babington; 3.45 E, Gloucester Service (Howells), Responses *(Reading), Thou O God art praised in Sion* (Boyle).

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 H Euch, Rev N Court; 9 Euch, Rev N Court; 11 S Euch, Darke in F, Creed (Shaw), Ave verum corpus (Gounod), Mr A Steele; 12.15 H Euch; 3.30 SE, Responses (Sanders), Sumsion in D, Give us the wings of faith (Bullock); 6.30 E, The Dean.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9, 10.30 HC, Canon J Atherton; 6.30 E, Brewer in D, Canon A Radcliffe.

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Robert Ashfield in C, Lord for thy tender mercy's sake (Hilton), Dialogue sur les grands jeux (Couperin).

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8, 9.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Aedis Christi (Mathias), Sing my soul his wondrous love (Rorem), Canon M Perham; 3.30 E, Kelly in C, Behold now praise the *Lord* (Titcomb); 6.30 Sequence in Honour of St Mary Magdalen, Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis (Watson), Gaelic Blessing (Rutter), Canon M Perham.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 9.30 M, Stanford in C; 10.30 Euch, Stanford in B flat, Ven G Kuhrt; 3.30 E, Aston in F, How lovely are thy dwellings (Brahms).

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8, 12.30 Euch, Rev D Murfet; 9.30 Euch, Canon P Marshall; 11.30 M, Te Deum (Jubilate); 6.30 E, Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis, Rev D Murfet.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 M, Responses (Rose), Benedictus (Chant Barnby), Coll Reg (Howells), If ye love me (Tallis); 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis, If ye love me (Tallis), Ven N Warren; 3.15 E, *If ye love me* (Tallis), *Noble in B* minor, Insanae et vanae curae, Amen (Byrd).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Coronation Mass/Laudate Dominum (Mozart), V Rev H Dickinson; 11.30 M, Responses (Rose), Te Deum & Jubilate in C (Britten), Faire is the heaven (Harris), Canon J Osborne; 3 E, Responses (Rose), Stanford in C, Beatus vir qui timet Dominum (Monteverdi).

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Canon T Page; 6.30 E, Ven S Lowe.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: *9 Euch, Rev Canon* R Bowie; 11 Choral Euch, Darke in F, The Lord is my shepherd (Berkeley), Ave verum (Byrd), The Provost; 3 Choral E, Kelly in C, Praise the Lord my soul (Wesley), Rev Canon H Cunliffe.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 C, Mr E Warde; 11 M, O sing joyfully (Batten), Responses (Neary), Coll Reg (Howells), Benedictus (Stanford in C), Mr E Ward; 3.15 County Council Service, Magnificat (Stanford in B flat), Hymn for St Cecilia (Howells), The Bishop; 5.45 E, Locus iste (Bruckner), Responses (Statham), Noble in B minor, Christ is our corner stone (Rawsthorne).

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, The Lord's Prayer (Stopford), Messe Solennelle (Vierne), The Treasurer; 6 E, Responses (Stopford), St Paul's Service (Howells), Vox dicentis (Naylor), The Chancellor.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa Orbis Factor (Gerald Near), O sacrum convivium (Messiaen), V Rev R Lewis; 11.30 M, Coll Reg (Howells), Alleluia I heard a voice (Weelkes); 3 E, Stanford in G, Evening Hymn (Gardiner), Rev G Farran.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Leighton), Coll Reg (Howells), God be in my head (Rawcliffe), Canon C Semper; 11.15 Euch, Missa brevis (Walton), O Lord send thy holy Spirit (Tallis), Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Rev J Goodall; 3 E, Gloucester Service (Howells), Let their celestial concerts (Handel), Rev T Williams; 6.30 ES, Sr H Markey.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 SM: Messe Cum jubilo (Duruflé), Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré), The Call (Vaughan Williams), Choral et Fugue (Guilmant); 3.30 V&B, Magnificat octavi toni (Suriano), O sacrum convivium (Victoria). Allegro Appassionata (Guilmant).

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.35 M; 10.30 Liturgy, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Ubi caritas/Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Behold the tabernacle of God (Harris), Litanies (Alain); 3.30 E, Responses (Rose), Coll Reg (Howells), Lo the full final Sacrifice (Finzi), Bring us O Lord God (Harris), Rev Canon A Walker.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, *Spatzenmesse (Mozart), Prayer of King Henry* (Ley), V Revd R Furnell; 11.30 M, Responses (Lloyd), Britten in C; 4 E, Magnificat (Swayne), Nunc dimittis (Holst), Zadok the priest (Handel), Rev Canon J Armstrong.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Stanford in B flat, O Salutaris Hostia (Nicholson), The Canon; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Radcliffe), Stanford in B flat, I was glad (Parry), The Dean.

ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, The Succentor; 11.15 Choral M, Venite (Alcock), Sumsion in G, They that go down to the sea (Sumsion), *The Dean; 6 Choral E, O sing joyfully* (Batten), Wood in E flat, Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley), The Canon.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, guest choir from Archdiocese of Detroit, Archbishop J Ganda of Freetown, Sierra Leone.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 MS HC, Rev D Robertson; 10 MS HC, O Quam Gloriosum (Victoria), V Rev J Weatherhead; 11.30 MS, Laetentur Coeli (Byrd), V Rev J Weatherhead; 8 ES, *Rev H Smith*.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, *Missa in angustiis* (Haydn), Dum transisset sabbatum (Taverner), Rev J Paul; 3.15 E, Responses (Shephard), Stanford in C, Blest pair of sirens (Parry), Ven G Cassidy.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 C; 11, Rev R Tice; 6.30 Rev J Cook.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 *Missa brevis* (Gabrieli), *Drop drop slow tears* (Gibbons), Regina coeli (Lotti).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, Dixit Dominus (Mozart), Rev Dr P Elvy; 6 E, Rev D Bean.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, Fr M Beattie, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa in honorem (Goller), Sicut cervus (Palestrina), O salutaris hostia (Alain).

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, *SW7: 9 ASB HC, Rev S Downham; 11 Family* Service, Rev R Thorpe; 5 Ordination, Rev S Downham; 7.30 Informal, Rev S Downham.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 11 Mass in G (Schubert), Christus factus est (Bruckner); 3.30, *Jesu dulcis memoria* (Dering).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 MP, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 11, Rev W J Davies.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr N Richardson.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev P Schmiege; 7 Bach Vespers, Rev Paul D Schmiege.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Mass Euge bone (Tye), Rev Professor J Booty; 6.30 E & Procession, *Fifth service* (Tomkins), *Maria Magdalene* (Guerrero), Rev Professor John Booty.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Jubilate (Stanford in B flat), Langlais (Solemn Setting), Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Gibbons), Magnificat/Nunc Dimittis (Walmisley in D), Hail gladdening light (Wood), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Choral M, Te Deum & Benedictus (Byrd), And I saw a new heaven *(Bainton), V Revd R Sullivan*.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, 6.30 *Rev W A Cairns*.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Missa Sine Nomine (Aedvardus De Ortona), Domine Non Sum Dignus (Victoria).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch (1662), John Paul Rector.

ST JAMES'S, *Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30* S Euch, Missa Brevis (Ives), Laudate Dominum (Mozart), Mr N Biddle; 6 Choral E, Walmisley in D minor, Save us O Lord (Bairstow).

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family C, Allabreve (Bach), Rev *M Okello; 6.30 EP, Rev J* Meadway.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, So God loved the world (Gibbons), Rev D Watson; 6.30 Choral E, Tomorrow shall be my dancing day (Gardner), Rev G Beauchamp.

ST MARK'S, *Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45* Family C; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Be still my soul (Whitlock), Rev A Shaw.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch for the Patronal Festival Missa Sancta Margerita (Gutteridge), Te Deum (Britten Festival Setting), Nisi Dominus (Monteverdi), Rev C Richardson.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8, 12.30 HC, Rev W Rotchford; 9.45 Euch, The Vicar; 11.30 Visitors, Rev C Herbert; 2.45 Chinese, Rev J Bennett; 5 Choral E; 6.30 ES, The Vicar.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington, W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Euch, The Vicar; 11.15 Choral M, The Vicar; 6.30 E, Mr N Pain.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa Laudate Dominum (Lassus), Fr B Scott; 6 E&B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, *Primrose Hill*: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Missa vidi speciosam (Victoria), O clap your hands together (Greene), Rev Lyndon van der Pump; 6 Taizé Service.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Communion Service *in F* (Darke), My soul there is a country (Parry), Beati quorum via (Stanford), Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; *11 S Euch*, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Os justi meditabitur sapientiam *(Bruckner), Fr W P Keyes*.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Leighton), Te Deum (Ireland in F), Benedictus (Chant), Dum Transisset (Taverner), Canon J G M W Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Alleluia I heard a voice (Weelkes), Canon L F Webber.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, *Stanford in C, Dyson in F, Rejoice in* the Lord (Purcell); 3.30 E, *Precamini* (Wood), Coll Reg (Howells), Lo the full final sacrifice (Finzi).

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Te Deum (Harris in A flat), Seek ye him that made the seven stars (Elgar), Rt Rev D Connor; 12.30 HC.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (Reading), Te Deum Laudamus/Jubilate Deo (Dyson in D), Revd Canon D Burgess.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Almighty God hast me brought (Ford), Why rage fiercely the heathen (Mendelssohn), The Chaplain; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, How amiable are thy dwellings (Vaughan Williams), Revd C French.

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1 Corinthians 14 : 12 (REB)**

BIRTHS

ATKINSON - On July 7th 1996 at the Chelsea and Westminster, to Heather (née Towell) and Adam, a daughter, Eleanor Mary Caera, a sister for Bethia.

BLOCK - On 8th July 1996, to Michael and Judith (née Walker), a daughter, Alice Margaret.

CARR - On July 2nd 1996, to Emma (née Stevens) and Steven, a son, Frederick James Bentley, a brother for George.

COOPER - On 11th July at Ospedale Mangiagalli, Italy, to Nora and Gordon, a son, Charles, a brother for Lily-Marie.

FEARON - On July 17th, to Caroline (née Sanders) and Niall, a son, Lorcan, a brother for Hugo.

GARTON - On July 18th at Pembury Hospital, Kent, to Michelle (née Dalkin) and Simon, a daughter, Sophia.

GASKELL - On 12th July 1996, to Catherine (née Evans) and David, a son, Ralfe, a brother for Gus.

GIBSON-ROBINSON - On 1st April 1996, to Chris and Victoria (née Maher), a son, Hereward Charles Magnus, a brother for Octavian and Caradoc.

PALMER - On July 12th in Hong Kong, to Judi (née Arundel) and Neil, a son, Louis Charles de Wilton, a brother for Ben and Jack.

PAUL - On 16th July, to Sarah and John, a son, Matthew Emile John, a gift from God.

PHIPPS - On 16th July at Cheltenham General Hospital, to Sarah (née Fanghanel) and Colin, a beautiful son, William George Fanghanel.

PONTÉ - To David and Elisabeth (Detiger), a daughter, Sophia Lutétia Crystal, at home in London, at 7 pm on Thursday 11th July.

SAVAGE - On July 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Carol and Kenny, a gorgeous son, Oliver Nathan Savage, grandson to Myrna and Alfred Young of Hampstead and Maureen and Ken Savage of Capetown.

SCOTT - On July 17th 1996, to Jane and Rory, a daughter, Augusta Fiona Sheira, a sister to Hannah and Sebastian.

SHAHIN - On 12th July at Burton Hospital, to Jan and Zeb, a beautiful daughter, Natasha Claudia.

SHAW - On July 14th at Chase Farm Hospital, Enfield, to Elizabeth and Ian, a son, Alexander Cameron, 7lbs 9oz.

STUDDERT-KENNEDY - On July 13th, to Anne (née Pepplatt) and Andrew, a daughter, Phoebe Grace, a sister for Jamie.

WAUTON - On July 15th, to Kerrin and Hugh, a son, Edward Alexander, a brother for Nicholas.

WILLIAMS-WATSON - On July 8th at Brighton, to *Katrina and Nicholas (Nick)*, a son, Bryce Thomas.

WILLIS - On July 15th, to Sharon (née Duke) and Alistair, a son, Henry Athol Billopp.

DEATHS

COOK - *Joyce peacefully* on 16th July 1996, aged 94, at Mill House Nursing Home, Horstead, Norwich formerly of Portsmouth, Winchester and Clifton, dearly loved wife of the late John Malcolm (Bill). Funeral at St John's Church, Hoveton at 3pm on Friday, 26th July followed by committal at Horsham St Faith's Crematorium. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, for the Royal National Institute for the Deaf c/o the Funeral Directors - Norgate Funeral Services, Mill Road, Horstead.

CURL - On July 19th 1996 peacefully at East Bilney Nursing Home, Norfolk, Dr. Oliver Curl (formerly of Cromer). Beloved by all his family. Service of Thanksgiving at St Bartholomew's Church, Brisley, on Wednesday July 24th at 2.30 pm. No flowers please, donations if desired to the National Trust (Operation Neptune) c/o Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 88 Unthank Road, Norwich, tel: (01603) 760787.

EASTON - H. Kenneth, on 17th July 1996 in his 90th year. Much loved and loving husband of Joy, father of Jayne, Ann and Richard. Much loved by his eleven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. Service on Tuesday 23rd July at 3pm St Mary Magdalene Tanworth-in-Arden. Family flowers only. If you wish donations to Birmingham Childrens Hospital, c/o Dr. Michael Stevens, Ladywood, Birmingham B16 8ET.

EHRENBERG - Pepita peacefully on July 17th. Donations, if desired, to The Alzheimer's Disease Society.

EVANS - Peacefully at home on July 16th 1996 Gladys Jane aged 85 years. A much loved lady, who will be sadly *missed* but, fondly remembered by all her loving family and friends. Donations if desired to the Ascot District Day Centre, Bagshot Road, Sunninghill, Berkshire. Further enquiries please tel: Lines Bannister F/D on Ascot (01344) 20266.

FELLNER - Hans died peacefully at home on Thursday July 18th. Funeral at West London Crematorium, Harrow Road, W10, on Tuesday 23rd July at 11 am. Donations if wished to Macmillan Nurses.

FLOYER - David Cornish, on July 15th at Heavitree Hospital, Exeter, father of Mark, James and Cecile. Service at Exeter Crematorium on Friday 26th July at 2 pm. No flowers but donations if desired to The West of England School for children with little or no sight, Countess Wear, Exeter, Devon EX2 6HA.

GARNER - Margaret Loveday, peacefully in Bourne Hospital, Lincolnshire, on 17th July aged 80 years. Dear mother of Jane and Rikki. Funeral will take place at Edenham Church, Lincolnshire, on July 24th at 2 pm. Enquiries Sandall and Robinson F/D, Bourne.

GIBSON - Wg Cdr G.M. Gibson, known to family and friends as Gibby or Donal, devoted husband of Ella (dec'd), died peacefully on Friday morning, 19th July. Ian, Keith and all of his family, not least his grandchildren, to whom he was a friend and confidant, will miss him greatly. Calls welcomed to Ian on 0118 984 2409.

GREEN - Margaret Blanche, always known as Peggy, peacefully on 18th July at home near Ipswich aged 94. Beloved mother of Peter and John and much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral private; family flowers only please but donations may be sent to Whippet Rescue, 9 Hatherley Road, Sidcup, DA14 4BH. A Memorial Service will be held later.

HUTTON - (Frederic) Martin *died peacefully on 17th July* 1996 at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in his 86th year. Formerly Editor of the Malay Mail. Cremation 25th July Mortlake 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Methodist Homes for the Aged c/o W. Sherry & Sons, 227 Acton Lane, W4, (0181) 994-5474.

LUPTON - L.F., artist and writer, b.18th July 1909 d.16th July 1996. Funeral Gunnersbury Baptist, Chiswick 25th July 1996 at 2 pm.

OSBORNE - Humfrey J.L. Beloved husband of Doreen and father to Jonathan and Amanda. On July 18th after a short illness. Family flowers only please.

PAKENHAM-WALSH - *Fay*, suddenly at home on 18th July 1996. Widow of Bill, mother of Richard and Sarah. Funeral enquiries to Bracher Brothers Ltd., tel: (01747) 822494.

PURVER - *Mary (née Addis)* Peacefully at home on July 18th after a long illness. Much loved wife of Bill and mother of Kate, Matthew and Edward. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Hertingfordbury, 12 noon on Thursday July 25th. Family flowers only, but if desired, donations may be made to Cancer Research or Macmillan Nurses.

RANDALL - Alec Albert, peacefully in hospital on 17th July aged 72. Much loved husband of Joyce, father of Philip and John and grandfather. Funeral for family and close friends on Friday 26th July at Breakspear Crematorium at 12.30 pm. Memorial Service to be announced later. Family flowers; donations to St Laurence Church, Cowley, Uxbridge.

ROHAU - Elisabeth, on 16th July, greatly loved sister of Dorothea Singer.

THORNTON - Michael Seymour Thornton *BA PhD*, my love and husband, on 7th June 1996 in the South of France after a short illness. Farewell and au revoir. Maylee Thornton-Sassen.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

PERUTZ - A Memorial Service for the life of Dinah Fyffe Perutz will be held at St Laurence's, Lurgashall, on Thursday August 22nd at 11am. After at the Quell.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

LEANSE - L. Gerald. 2nd January 1909 - 21st July 1980. Remembering him today and every day with abiding love. Sheelagh, Stephen, Robin, Peter.

WILLIS - Muriel. Will be remembered affectionately on July 21st the 12th anniversary of her death. B.J., E and S.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

BORRETT:BAMSEY - On 20th July 1946 at the Church of the Holy Family, Reigate, Captain Louis Albert Frank Borrett, The Royal Sussex Regiment and Miss Barbara Betty Bamsey. Now in East Grinstead. Deo Gratias.

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OBITUARIES

SIR GEOFFREY JELLICOE

Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe, CBE, landscape architect, died on July 16 aged 95. He was born on October 8, 1900.

A VISIONARY who regarded landscape design as "the mother of all arts", Geoffrey Jellicoe was as important to the modern age as Capability Brown was to the 18th century. Throughout a prolific career spanning six decades he felt his way instinctively towards an understanding of the full potential of landscape, demonstrating its ability to withstand the often destructive forces of modernism.

His work reflected the spirit of civilisations gone by with a formal grace which, if it now seems familiar in garden design, owes much to Jellicoe's analytic study and scholarship. He understood natural beauty, but saw that designers could add an extra dimension to it, moulding it to reflect the surrounding civilisation.

His book, *The Landscape of Man* (1975), was much influenced by the work of Carl Jung, and his greatest designs incorporate a Jungian awareness to the subconscious symbolic aspects of landscape. Though rotund and briskly cheerful, with an eagerness of speech that brought words tumbling from his mouth in almost inarticulate enthusiasm, he had nonetheless a scholarly and probing mind. He delighted in investigating the relations between things and in seeking the philosophical essence of any problem.

Jellicoe was appointed CBE in 1961, and knighted in 1979.

Geoffrey Alan Jellicoe was born in London where his father was a publisher. His mother had studied painting at the Slade School and it may have been from her that he inherited his eye for design. However, he did not set out to be a landscape designer, and would unabashedly confess a dislike for gardening. After attending Cheltenham College he enrolled at the Architectural Association (AA) and trained to be an architect. He was to return to this school as its principal from 1939 to 1943, when it was evacuated to Hadley Common, Hertfordshire, during the war years.

It was at the AA that his interest in landscape was kindled, and winning a Bernard Webb studentship at the British School in Rome, he and a fellow student, J. C. Shepherd, toured Italy making measured drawings of the country's famous gardens, and rendering plans and elevations in watercolour. These, published in book form in 1925 under the title *Italian Gardens of the Renaissance*, formed probably the first fresh appraisal of their subject since the 19th century. They were to influence many young architects, encouraging them to undertake a modern day equivalent of the Grand Tour.

Returning to England, and being elected an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects (ARIBA) in 1927, Jellicoe set up his own practice but with a leaning towards town-planning and garden design. One of his early interests was the relation of new industrial buildings to their landscape setting and in 1929 he helped to found the Institute of Landscape Architects before going on to set up the International Federation of Landscape Architects of which he was an honorary life president.

Jellicoe's landscape interests were pursued in commissions for country houses where a revision of tradition seemed more appropriate than a revolution of it. In 1935 he designed a formal garden at James Gibbs' 18th-century mansion, Ditchley Park in Oxfordshire. It was widely regarded as the last great classical garden in Britain. At Montisford Abbey he set an avenue of pleached limes against sweeping lawns.

During the war Jellicoe became one of the first landscape architects consulted by industry. He served as housing architect to the Ministry of Supply. In 1940 he had the opportunity to put some of his ideas into practice working on the surroundings of some colliery buildings and miners' houses in Nottinghamshire. His 1942 designs for the Earle's Cement Works in Derbyshire showed how industrial buildings could be incorporated into attractive rural surroundings without scarring them forever.

Jellicoe executed some notable civic and commercial commissions including terraces at Landbury, the model town centre for the Festival of Britain. He was also offered the opportunity to plan Hemel Hempstead New Town in 1947, though in the end only his scheme for a water garden was executed.

He, himself, tended to denigrate his architectural work and it was in gardens that he was principally interested. As well as his work at Ditchley Park he designed gardens at the Royal Lodge in Windsor, at Sandringham and at Chequers. From the 1960s onwards he concentrated increasingly on this aspect of his work. He laid out the central area of the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley, he prepared development plans for Sark in the Channel Islands, for the Isles of Scilly and for the centre of Gloucester. But perhaps one of his most notable and characteristic creations was the 1964-65 J. F. Kennedy Memorial at Runnymede, a deceptively simple and poetic co-ordination of layout and planting embodying his intense sense of the symbolism of this historic landscape. Jellicoe had been inspired in its design by the work of Ben Nicholson, Henry Moore and Graham Sutherland, artists whom he, himself, befriended. Over the years he built up an impressive collection of their work.

Even after his retirement from architectural practice in the early 1970s, Jellicoe was kept busy as a landscape consultant. He was concerned about the development of new arterial roads, and he gave telling evidence at several public inquiries, stressing the value of a sympathetic relation to the larger landscape, but never speaking simply as a preservationist. Among other commissions he also redesigned Fitzroy Square in London, making the space as pleasant to look at as it was to be in. He was a member of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England and of the Royal Parks committee.

The last phase of Jellicoe's career came in 1980, a year after he had been knighted. He was invited to design a new setting, including a series of surrounding gardens, for one of Britain's most famous early Tudor mansions, Sutton Place, near Guildford, which had been bought by Stanley Seeger after the death of J. Paul Getty. Using his favourite devices of long walks, enclosures and contrasts of spaciousness and detail, he reshaped the existing garden. The most memorable feature of this commission is a version of a white relief by Ben Nicholson enclosed by beech hedges and offset by a pool. Regrettably, however, the full design was never completed.

In his old age Jellicoe found inspiration in the writings of Heraclitus and in the theory of the mutability of the world. He was 84 years old when he embarked on the most ambitious project of his career: the creation of an artificial landscape to be known as the Moody Historical Gardens, at Galveston, Texas, designed to occupy 126 acres of otherwise unusable wetland. The aim was to present a form of landscape history of the world's civilisations — incorporating at the same time a survey of botanical history — which visitors would tour by waterbus. The execution of the project is due to begin in the next few years. Jellicoe made all the drawings for it himself and a book of them was published in 1988.

Geoffrey Jellicoe married Ursula Pares — always known as Susan — in 1936. She too was a garden expert and he relied on her for advice, especially on planting. The long narrow garden of their house in Highgate, which created an illusion of complexity and extent, was their joint creation. She predeceased him in 1986. They had no children.

JOHN AGAR

John Agar, chemist, died on July 11 aged 81. He was born on August 11, 1914.

JOHN AGAR was a gifted physical chemist who contributed a great deal to the understanding of electrochemistry — the science which ranges from batteries and electroplating, to the manufacture of aluminium and hydrogen.

John Newton Agar was educated at Bradfield College from which he won an open scholarship to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. He went up to Cambridge in 1932 to read natural sciences and obtained firsts in both parts of the tripos. In 1935 he was elected to college research studentship and began research with the late Dr F. P. Bowden on research on electrochemistry, a topic which was to have a lifelong fascination for him.

During this period Philip Bowden was ill for a while and Agar was largely responsible for two Royal Society papers and an annual report of the Chemical Society which appeared under their joint names. These considered the problem of overpotential — for instance, why the voltage required to liberate significant amounts of hydrogen and oxygen from water is larger than predicted. They were a remarkable achievement for someone in his early twenties.

On completing his PhD in 1938, he became research assistant to the late Dr U. R. Evans in the neighbouring Corrosion Laboratory and was soon involved in a number of wartime research projects for the Ministry of Supply and the Admiralty metallurgical laboratory, working on corrosion problems in ships.

In 1945 he went to Germany to examine their wartime research in such areas, and later that year returned to the department of physical chemistry as an ICI Fellow. He remained in Cambridge for the rest of his life becoming a university demonstrator in 1947 and a lecturer the following year. In 1965 he was appointed reader in physical chemistry, a post which he held until his retirement in 1981.

Agar had a remarkable understanding of the whole subject of physical chemistry. He enjoyed the intellectual challenge of any problem in physics or chemistry. When one was propounded, he would puff on his pipe, scribble a few equations and quickly offer an ingenious solution or comment with a shy smile.

Nevertheless, he stuck very firmly to electrochemistry as a research topic, concentrating on the difficult problems of the diffusion of salts between solutions at different temperatures (the Soret effect) and electrical cells with electrodes at different temperatures. His insistence on the highest standards meant that he published little and he avoided publishing criticisms of the work of others even when it was clearly erroneous. He nevertheless enjoyed an international reputation in electrochemistry for his gentle and unassuming wisdom.

In 1950 he was elected a Fellow at Sidney Sussex College where he was tutor for postgraduate students for a while and later became Vice-Master. He was head of the department of physical chemistry for two periods of about two years, first during the vice-chancellorship of Professor J. W. Linnett and then again almost immediately afterwards following Linnett's death.

Administration was not wholly to his liking. He had a remarkable ability to sense all the options in a situation and to predict the reactions of others, but disliked decision taking, because all the consequences of an alternative decision would never be known. After successfully steering Sidney Sussex College through a mastership election and the department of physical chemistry through a difficult period, he was only too pleased to return to his books and his teaching.

In 1952 he married Delia Margaret Simpson, a Fellow of Newham College, Cambridge, and herself a Cambridge PhD in physical chemistry. There were no children.

MAJOR-GENERAL ROBERT TURNER CAIN

Major-General Robert Turner Cain, CB, CBE, DSO, Major-General, Administration, GHQ Far East Land Forces, 1964-67, and chairman of Anglia Maltings, 1962-82, died on July 11 aged 84. He was born on February 16, 1912.

HAD it not been for the world economic Depression in the early 1930s, Bob Turner Cain would have joined the family firm of Norfolk maltsters. From the age of 14 he had accompanied his uncle, the chairman of the company, around the company's maltings in northern Norfolk. By 1932, however, the malting industry was so depressed and (to those with a sense of history) signs of another war with Germany were so obvious that he decided to make the Army his primary career. But always kept in close touch with the family business.

A physically large, avuncular figure with a powerful, outgoing personality, who was known as "Uncle Bob" by his soldiers, he had two highly successful and quite different careers. As a soldier, he fought in the prewar North West Frontier campaigns, then battled though Normandy and took part in the assault over the Rhine. In the very different ethos of the 1960s, based in Singapore, he was in charge of logistics during the Brunei and Borneo campaign which secured Malaysia against the aggressive intentions of Indonesia's ruler, President Sukarno. After retiring from the Army, as chairman of the family firm, he then increased malt production over twenty years from under 5,000 to 100,000 tons per year.

A son of Wing Commander G. Turner Cain, he was educated at Norwich School and Sandhurst before being commissioned into the Norfolk Regiment in 1932. He was posted to the 1st Battalion on the North West Frontier of India in 1933. He saw active service almost straight away in Waziristan, taking plart in operations against the Fakir of Ipi, a notorious frontier firebrand. For this he was mentioned in dispatches.

Returning to England five years later, he became Adjutant of the regimental depot of the now Royal Norfolks in Norwich, where he assisted in the mobilisation of the Regular and Territorial battalions at the outbreak of war in 1939. He did not go to France with the British Expeditionary Force, and so fortunately missed the evacuation from Dunkirk. He rejoined the 1st Battalion as a company commander in the 79th Armoured Division after attending the Staff College, Camberley, in 1941. In the preparations for D-Day, he was transferred to the 1st Herefords as second-in-command, and as a reserve CO for the landings in Normandy.

The 1st Herefords were in the 159th Infantry Brigade, which landed as part of the 11th Armoured Division. At the end of June, their CO, Jack Churcher, was promoted to command the brigade, and Cain took over the battalion. His first major action as CO was on July 20, 1944, during Operation "Goodwood", Montgomery's abortive attempt to break out with three armoured divisions attacking abreast down a bomb carpet laid by the strategic bombers. Thereafter, he fought with the 1st Herefords throughout the North West Europe campaign from Normandy to the Baltic.

He was awarded his DSO for his battalion's crucial night assault crossing of the Willems Canal at Zomeren on September 21-22 during the 11th Armoured Division's attempt to reach the 1st Airborne Division at Arnhem. Before his bridgehead was secure, he was heavily counter-attacked by experienced high quality German infantry. Their eventual repulse in bitter and confused fighting enabled the Sappers to bridge the canal, and tanks and a further battalion to cross and exploit his success by seizing the town of Asten. His DSO citation ends: "His sound tactical ability made possible the great success of his battalion at heavy cost to the enemy; his coolness and personal bravery under enemy fire were an inspiration to all ranks."

As the war ended he was awarded the French Croix de Guerre, and was lucky enough to be present at the German surrender to Field Marshal Montgomery on Lüneburg Heath on May 4, 1945. After a series of staff appointments, he was given war-substantive command of his own regiment, 1st Royal Norfolks, in 1947, which was stationed in Berlin during the breaching of the Russian blockade of the city by the Allied air lift from the West.

By 1950 he was a student at the Joint Services Staff College. From there he went on to spend three years in the Military Intelligence Directorate of the War Office before being appointed, at last, to fully substantive command of 1st Royal Norfolks, stationed first in Hong Kong and then at Colchester.

After two years as the commandant of the tactical wing of the School of Infantry, he was promoted brigadier in 1957, and seconded to the Federal Army in Malaya as commander of the 1st Federal (Malay) Infantry Brigade with which he carried through some of the last jungle operations against the communist terrorist gangs on the Thai border. He was awarded the Star of Kedah for his services to Malaya.

He returned home in 1961 and was sent as Brigadier General Staff to HQ British Army of the Rhine. He anticipated trouble of some sort with the Russians and took precautionary steps to strengthen the communications with the British garrison. He was soon amply justified by the sudden building of the Berlin Wall. He was appointed CBE in 1963.

Promoted major-general in 1964, he flew eastwards again, this time to Singapore as Major-General (Administration) in GHQ Far East Land Forces, and handled all the Army's supply and movement problems throughout the confrontation with Indonesia in Brunei and Borneo, a difficult task which ended in one of the tidiest victories secured by the British Army in any of its minor postwar campaigns. As Denis Healey, Labour Minister of Defence, was able to say at the close of the campaign in 1966, it would be recorded in the history books "as one of the most efficient uses of military force in the history of the world." A campaign which ought to have served as a model for the USA about how to fight jungle warfare against a determined and ideologically-motivated opponent, it secured the future of Malaysia against what was at that time a large and menacing enemy.

Turner Cain retired in 1967. Appointed CB that year, he became Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment into which the Royal Norfolks had been amalgamated.

His second career as a maltster had opened before he retired from the Army. At his request, the Army Board had allowed him to take over the chairmanship of the family firm in 1962. Besides the twenty-fold increase of malt production during his time as chairman, two new maltings were built, and transport and cereal products companies were added. By the time he retired in 1982, the firm had become Anglia Maltings (Holdings). When he handed over, he became president of the family business.

He married Lamorna Maturin Hingston, daughter of Colonel G. B. Hingston, in 1938. They had a son and a daughter. His family survive him.

Robert Turner Cain, centre, inspecting troops of the Royal Malay Regiment, 1964

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice

ANDERSON, ENA MARY, 19 NEW ROAD, HAM COMMON, RICHMOND, SURREY died 12th July 1995: particulars to D.E. Sturgess, Solicitor, 125 Hill Lane, Southampton SO15 5AF before 30th September 1996

HARCOURT DORIS ETHEL late of 1 Mill Road, Worthing, West Sussex (formerly of 8 Heyward Court, Mulgrave Road, Sutton, Surrey) who died on 14th June 1996. Particulars to the partners of W.H Matthews & Company Solicitors, 11 & 13 Grove Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 1DS before 23rd September 1996

TRUSTEE ACTS

MARSH, JAMES ARTHUR THOMAS JEWEL otherwise JAMES ARTHUR THOMAS JEWEL 96 Troy Court, Kensington High Street, Kensington, London died 3rd December 1995: particulars to Burton Copeland Solicitors, 196 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3NE before 16th September 1996

LEGAL NOTICES

CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
Notice to Creditors
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF
Robert A. Rushton & Company Limited (In Liquidation)

On 17 July 1996 the company was placed in creditors' voluntary liquidation. Paul Anthony Brereton Evans and Colin Graham Bird of Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL have been appointed Liquidators.

Creditors of the company are requested to send details in writing, of their claims against the company to the liquidators at the above address.

Claims need not be in any particular form. The liquidators reserve their right to require a creditor to support his or her claim by affidavit.

Yours faithfully
Paul Anthony Brereton Evans
Joint Liquidator
17 July 1996

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-782 7344

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

THE NATIONAL TRUST

QUESTION OF BLOOD SPORTS

Lord Zetland, the chairman of the National Trust, reviewed a year of remarkable progress in the trust's history at the annual meeting, held yesterday at Merchant Taylors' Hall, Threadneedle Street.

Their Bill had passed through Parliament without opposition, LORD ZETLAND said, and gave them a far wider scope. First it made possible the country house scheme, and as the advantages of the scheme to owners as well as the public became better realized they were confident that they would be entrusted with the preservation of many historic and beautiful places. Already the public-spirited owners of several important estates had asked them to prepare proposals for handing over their estates to the trust under the scheme. Several local authorities were already considering gifts of funds or land.

Professor Trevelyan, Mr. R. B. Graham, and Miss Wrigley were already making use of the provisions relating to covenants to protect important places in the Lake District, Harry Plase and Robin Ghyll Cottage, Langdale, a farm in Borrowdale, and 190 acres on Wansfell. The Government had helped them in all these schemes, and the further provisions proposed to be inserted in the Finance Act this year about land devised to the trust would be of great benefit.

COMMANDER J. L. CATHER moved a resolution on field sports. It called on the executive committee to rescind any existing authorization of hunting and shooting for sport on National Trust properties and to prohibit them in future, except where land had been given to the trust conditionally on the sanctioning of field sports. Commander Cather said that if at the same time as they tried to preserve the more permanent features of the countryside or towns they were permitting the destruction of something much greater — the destruction of life for purposes which, he was afraid, he could regard only as wanton — then they were, to his mind, contravening the whole spirit in which the trust was devised and in which it should be carried on.

Mr. BERTRAM LLOYD, honorary secretary of the National Society for the Abolition of Cruel Sports, seconded the motion. To many of them, he said, a badger, an otter, or a stoat was an animal of "historic interest and natural beauty", in the words used in the full title of the trust.

Mr. R. C. NORMAN, vice-chairman of the executive committee, opposed the resolution, which if carried, he said, would do a serious injury to the trust. The great principle of sport *versus* anti-sport should be fought out outside the National Trust by the general public. Shooting was let on 21 of the trust's properties, amounting to 10,000 acres, and the shooting rents they received were £500 a year. He had little doubt that if those interested could provide sufficient money the trust would be able to increase considerably the amount of land on which shooting was not let.

Hunting, Mr. Norman continued, was a far more difficult question. The largest of all the trust's properties was on Exmoor, where the reservation of the right of stag-hunting was made when the properties were handed over, so that if the resolution were carried it would not get rid of hunting the stag over their Exmoor property.

The sheep-farmers in the Lake District, where the trust had an enormous amount of property, had hunted the fox on foot over the hills for generations. How were they going to prevent the Lakeland farmers hunting the fox as they had always done? They would create a feeling of bitterness that would destroy the whole value of the work of the National Trust, and even then would not stop the farmers.

The resultion was defeated by a large majority.

ON THIS DAY

July 20, 1937

The vexed question as to whether hunting and shooting should be allowed on National Trust property was discussed at the trust's annual meeting

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Girl, 13, murdered on French trip

■ A 13-year-old English girl was raped and suffocated in a Brittany youth hostel during a school trip. Caroline Dickinson, a second-year pupil at Launceston College, Cornwall, was killed while four girls slept in the room beside her.

One of them told police she thought she heard a noise in the early hours of the morning, but assumed Caroline was having a nightmare .... Pages 1, 6

Terrorist 'boarded' doomed flight

■ The American Government was investigating reports that an *Arab terrorist boarded* TWA Flight 800 in Athens and that an Iranian group may have placed a bomb on the jet which crashed near Long Island, killing 230 .... Pages 1, 14, 15

Duke to quit Navy

The Duke of York, 36, is to leave the Royal Navy in two years' time after nearly 20 years' distinguished service .... Pages 1, 6

Olympics open

With the glitter of sequins, fireworks and $300 m worth of security, the 26th Olympic Games opened .... Pages 1, 21, 46, 48

Life for bag thief

A judge jailed a 19-year-old handbag thief for life, saying he felt obliged to protect the public for as long as possible from the "predator" .... Page 3

Bus off route

The bus which crashed into a low bridge, injuring fifty children in Cheshire, was not permitted to use the route .... Page 5

Holiday by the siege

The Princess of Wales and Duchess of York were holidaying under siege after three photographers were arrested .... Page 6

Government guilty

A judge blamed the Government for the deaths of people who contracted CJD after being given growth hormone from corpses .... Page 9

Christian aid

A Christian group called Fundamentalists Anonymous is to be launched to help people struggling with extremist churches .... Page 10

Charges dropped

The Lord Chancellor has shelved plans under which civil court claimants would pay a daily hearing fee .... Page 11

Karadzic quits

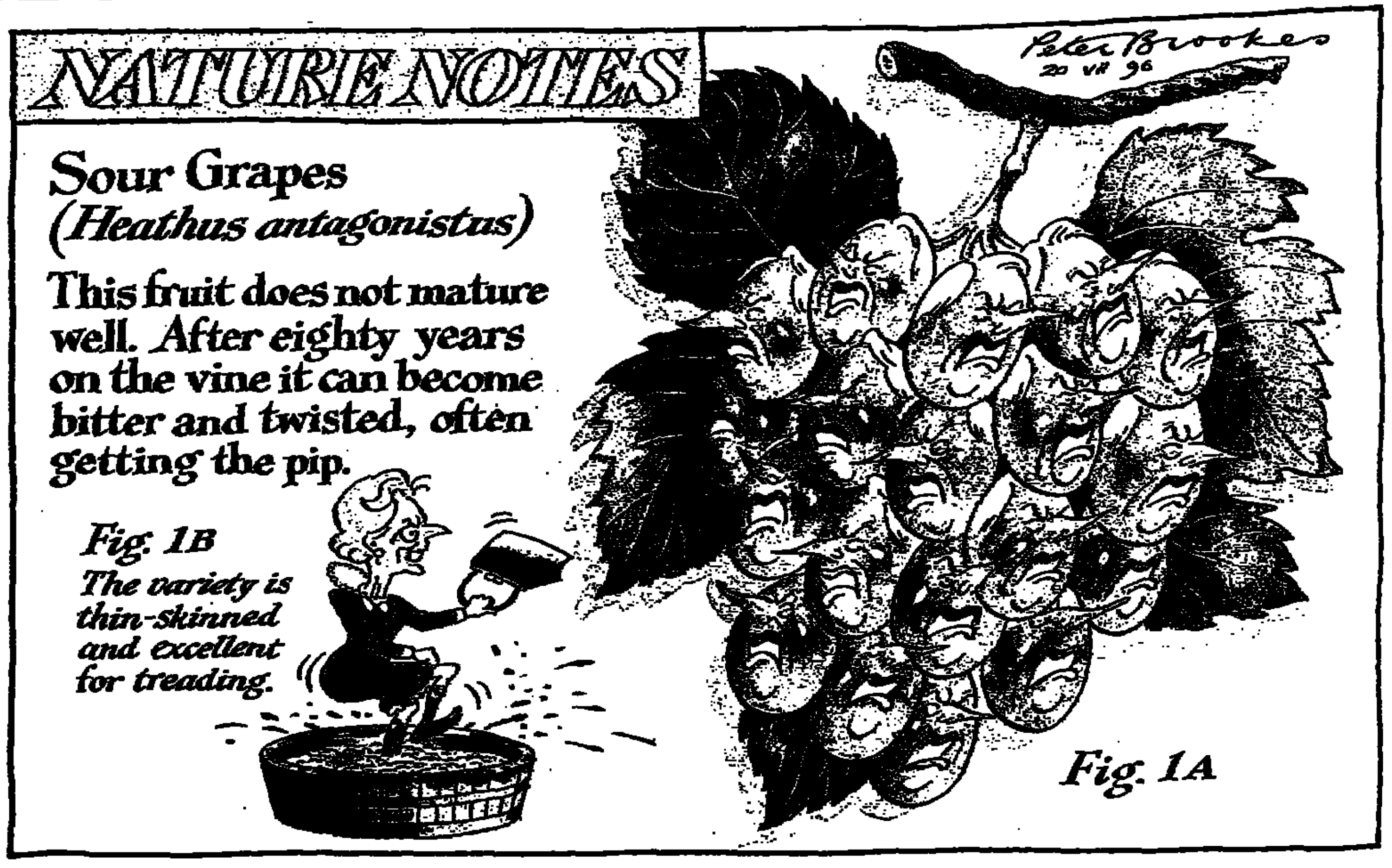
Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader indicted as a war criminal, resigned from all public office .... Page 13

Small party

The American Friends of the Mary Rose gave a party for the Prince of Wales, but few went .... Page 15

Dublin ghosts go to the wall

■ Crowds are gathering at a council house near Dublin after a family reported ghosts dancing on a wall. A psychic psychologist says the figures are car lights reflected off a shed roof, but the spectacle stays popular — especially after closing time ... Page 3



NATURE NOTES

Sour Grapes
(Heathus antagonistus)

This fruit does not mature well. After eighty years on the vine it can become bitter and twisted, often getting the pip.

Fig. 1B
The variety is thin-skinned and excellent for treading.

OPINION

Bush warfare: The news and programming requirements of the BBC World Service differ from those of the domestic service. John Birt has yet to convince his supporters, let alone his critics, that his proposed mergers will do more good than harm .... Page 21

Paradox in court: The point of contempt of court legisla*tion is to protect a trial from* contamination .... Page 21

LETTERS

Climate change and energy efficiency; Sickert and artistic *obsessions; ID cards* Page 21

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: The airwaves are to be saturated with material that meets television's dream requirement, to keep the maximum number of sets on .... Page 20

Norman Lamont: Recent events have been a massive victory for the IRA and Sinn Fein .... Page 20

OBITUARIES

Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe, landscape architect; **Major-General Robert Turner Cain,** chairman of Anglia Maltings; **John Agar,** *chemist* .... Page 23

ARTS

Prize lard: An art student has won £10,000 for a sculpture primarily consisting of a bag of lard .... Page 17

El Vez hits town: Mexico's Elvis Presley impersonator, El Vez, in London .... Page 17

Emerald spools: Six new Irish films, which have gone on show at the Galway Film Fleadh, include a controversial one about IRA hunger strikers .... Page 18

Calcutta revisited: *Voyeurz,* London's new nude musical, must work hard to generate as much debate as *Oh! Calcutta!* .... Page 19

BUSINESS

Bus charges: The chairman of British Bus was one of two men arrested and charged with corruption in connection with gifts totalling £600,000 .... Page 25

Rolls-Royce blow: More than 2,500 jobs are at risk after the aerospace and engineering group said it would sell or close two loss-making *businesses* .... Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 17.1 points to 3,710.5. on the foreign exchange. *Sterling rose* .24 cents to $1.5474 and .18 pfennigs to DM2.3038 .... Page 30

SPORT

Golf: Paul McGinley had a hole-in-one at the 9th, and equalled the course record in the second round of the Open Championship at Lytham .... *Page 48*

Cricket: Jason Gallian scored 312 for Lancs v *Derbyshire* .... *Page 48*

Olympic Games: Shane Healy, a runner, hopes his *Atlanta appearance* will reunite him with his mother and sister .... Page 46

CAR 96

Numbers up: Drivers put *their egos on a plate*

SECTIONS

MAGAZINE

Lucy Dahl: The author on *life with a legend* .. Page 8

Paul Scofield: Alan Franks meets Britain's best ever actor ..... Page 16

WEEKEND

Child talent: photography competition .... Page 1

Reader offer: take a child to the zoo — free.. Page 18

World golf: 80,000 Brit*ons tee off* ...... Pages 20,21

10 15

The weekly magazine for young Times *readers*

Gold: Sheryl Swoopes for basketball victory

VISION

Carmen Miranda: *Bananas Is My Business.* Monday Channel 4, 11.40pm

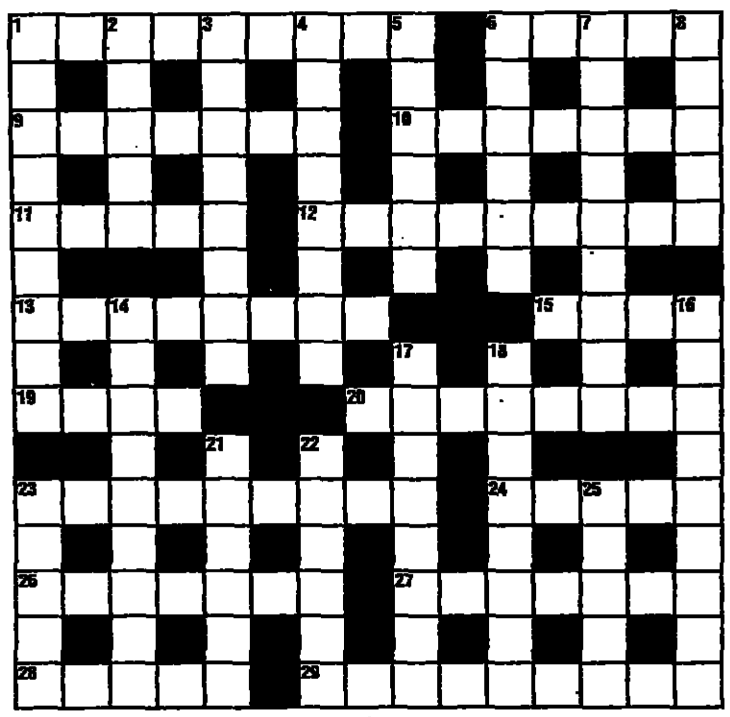
Atletico Partick: comedy. Thursday BBC1 10pm

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,225

A limited edition, 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single malt whisky, the only malt whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....

....



ACROSS

1 Drug addict should stop behaving like that! (4,3,2).
6 American tool used by 7 is saw (5).
9 Country allocating money to road construction (7).
10 Overprotect half our capital in the City (7).
11 Farm labourer goes about a foot (5).
12 Author said play could provide *what resting actors need* (9).
13 Dad's backing Mum, perhaps — that's evident (8).
15 Runner reaching half-way point is complacent (4).
19 King's knight moved back — it could be used in incisive attack (4).
20 Parental, in a way (8).
23 Vote against accepting seven points for this (9).
24 Put out by climax in speech (5).
26 He's read version that's cut (7).
27 Finally firing more work-shy workman (7).
28 Reserve parking place (3-2).
29 It proves ownership of river in noble setting (5,4).

DOWN

1 Inferior guy securing Egyptian flag (9).
2 Doctor to treat black eye (5).
3 Unexceptional old American bicycle (8).
4 Previous state adopted by iron (8).
5 Bar of soap, say, permitted to be added to bill (6).
6 A pound added to some capital in the States (6).
7 Venue for races in a film one's shot (4,2,3).
8 Note car on motorway (5).
14 Hobby of some recently seen in pursuit of letter (9).
16 Bloomer gondolier might make if daughter takes one's place (9).
17 Staircase containing an opening for ventilation (8).
18 Worker sometimes unpunctual, forming a pattern (8).
21 Something like an inch taken from slip in blue (6).
22 Gang joined by Italian robber (6).
23 He's gone to pot, according to Keats (5).
25 One engineer understanding question paper — a lot (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,219

```
C A S T E   P E G G E D O U T
A   W   N   R   U   B   F   H
B O A R D R O O M   B U F F O
R   M   O   F   D   E   C   S
I L I U M   A E R O D R O M E
O       O   N   O       L    
L U C E R N E   P A P O O S E
E   R   P           R   U   X
T O U C H E D   P I E R R O T
    S       R   I   S       R
D E T E N T I O N   C O M B O
U   A   Y   E   H   R   I   V
M O C H A   D O O L I T T L E
P   E   L   U   L   B   R   R
S T A R A P P L E   E R E C T
```

Solution to Puzzle No 20,224

```
P I N E M A R T E N   E P I C
O   U   A   E   N       O   H
S E C O N D H A N D   A R E A
T   L   S   E   E   F   T   R
  P E A L   A B A S E M E N T
S   U   A   R   D   A   N   R
M U S Q U A S H   S T O D G E
A       G   E   P   H       U
T R O P H Y   C A R E L E S S
T   R   T   V   S   R   A   E
E X T R E M I S T   B E S T  
R   O   R   R   I   R   T   S
I S L E   P A R L I A M E N T
N   A       G   L   I   R   Y
G O N E   G O V E R N A N C E
```

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *J L Thorne, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire; A Coley, Wilmslow, Cheshire; D J Inghham, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire; R Mackay, Llanelli, Dyfed; A McLaggan, London.*

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Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 5 08 am — Sun sets: 9 06 pm
Moon sets 10.49 pm — Moon rises 10.13 am

First quarter July 23

London 9 06 pm to 5 09 am
Bristol 9 15 pm to 5 19 am
Edinburgh 9 41 pm to 4 58 am
Manchester 9.24 pm to 5 08 am
Penzance 9.21 pm to 5 37 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 5 09 am — Sun sets: 9 04 pm
Moon sets 11.13 pm — Moon rises 11.18 am

First quarter July 23

London 9 04 pm to 5.10 am
Bristol 9.14 pm to 5 20 am
Edinburgh 9 40 pm to 4 59 am
Manchester 9.22 pm to 5 09 am
Penzance 9.20 pm to 5 38 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4:28	6.7	4:35	6.6
Aberdeen	3:53	4.0	4:24	3.8
Avonmouth	9:46	11.8	9:54	11.9
Belfast	1:33	3.6	1.51	3.2
Cardiff	9:24	11.1	9:36	11.2
Devonport	8:25	4.8	8:32	5.0
Dover	1:18	6.2	1:36	6.3
Dublin (N Wall)	1:55	3.9	2:22	3.7
Falmouth	7:36	4.6	7:52	4.8
Greenock	2:53	3.4	3:35	3.0
Harwich	2:13	3.7	2:27	3.7
Holyhead	0:40	5.3	1:04	5.0
Hull (Albert D)	8:42	7.0	9:13	6.8
Ilfracombe	8:37	8.4	8:46	8.5
King's Lynn	8:44	6.2	9:05	6.0
Leith	5:09	5.2	5:37	5.1
Liverpool	1:34	8.8	1:59	8.6
Lowestoft	0:11	2.3	12:00	2.5
Margate	2:23	4.4	2:28	4.5
Milford Haven	8:47	6.1	9:00	6.2
Newquay	7:40	6.2	7:57	6.2
Oban	8:19	3.6	8:23	3.7
Penzance	7:10	4.9	7:23	5.0
Portland	9:19	1.7	9:24	1.8
Portsmouth	1:15	4.4	2:04	4.4
Shoreham	1:23	5.7	1:47	5.8
Southampton	1:07	4.3	1:28	4.3
Swansea	8:52	8.5	9:00	8.6
Tees	6:12	5.0	6:41	4.8
Walton-on-Naze	2:06	3.9	2:21	3.9

Crown copyright reserved — All tide times are GMT

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Saunton Sands, Devon, 27C (81F); lowest day max: Fair Isle, Shetland, 12C (54F) highest rainfall: Stornoway, Hebrides, 0.05in, highest sunshine: Folkestone, Kent, 14.5hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be dry with long sunny spells and light winds. It will be very warm in most places. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be mostly dry with sunny spells, but northwest Scotland is expected to be cloudy with patchy rain or drizzle, spreading slowly east. Northern Ireland will have patchy rain in the evening. Temperatures mostly above average.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Cent S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales**: dry, long sunny spells. Wind variable, mostly light south or southeast. Max 26 to 28C, 79 to 82F.

☐ **NW England, Lake District, Cent N, NE England**: generally dry with sunny spells but small chance of a shower later. Wind southerly, light occasionally moderate. Max 26C, 79F.

☐ **Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands**: dry with sunny spells. Small chance of showers later. Wind southerly, light to moderate. Max 22 to 24C, 72 to 75F.

☐ **Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland**: *mostly dry at first,* cloud increasing with patchy rain or drizzle later. Wind southerly, moderate becoming fresh. Max 16C, 61F.

☐ **Argyll, NW Scotland**: *cloudy,* patchy rain or drizzle at times, more persistent later. Wind southerly, moderate to fresh. Max 16C, 61F.

☐ **N Ireland**: sunny intervals, becoming cloudy later, rain in evening. Wind moderate southerly. Max 23C, 73F.

☐ **Outlook**: rain at times in North West, sunny and warm in South East.

☐ **Pollen forecast**: NW Scotland, London, low; E Anglia, South East, moderate to high; elsewhere, high.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

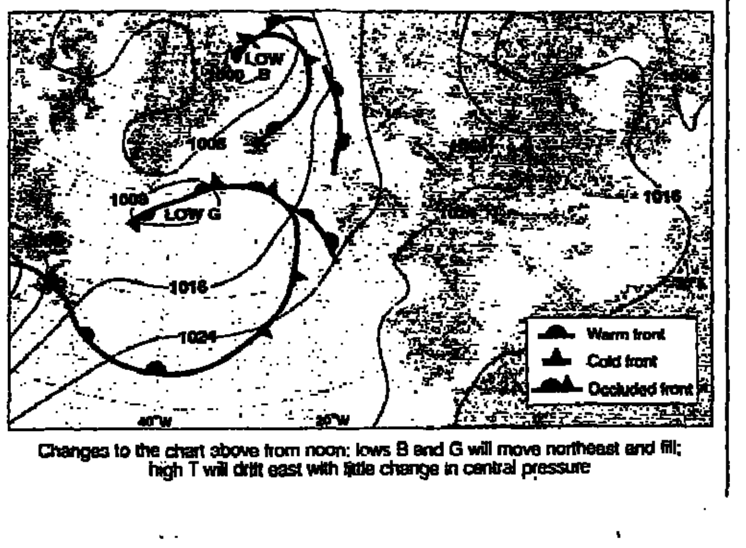
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Aberdeen	10.2	-	18	64	s	London	15.1	-	27	81	s
Anglesey	13.4	-	22	72	s	Lowestoft	12.2	-	18	64	s
Aspatria	13.0	-	23	73	s	Manchester	16.0	-	27	81	s
Belfast	12.9	-	24	75	s	Margate	14.9	-	19	66	s
Birmingham	15.2	-	27	81	s	Minehead	14.5	-	25	77	s
Bognor R	15.5	-	22	72	s	Morecambe	15.6	-	21	70	s
Bournem'th	15.1	-	22	72	s	Newcastle	X				
Bristol	14.8	-	28	82	s	Newquay	X				
Buxton	15.3	-	24	75	s	Norwich	15.2	-	22	72	s
Cardiff	15.0	-	25	77	s	Oxford	15.0	-	26	79	s
Clacton	13.6	-	16	61	s	Penzance	X	-	22	72	s
Colwyn Bay	13.5	-	20	68	s	Poole	15.4	-	23	73	s
Cromer	13.5	-	16	61	s	Prestatyn	X	-	21	70	s
Dunbar	7.3	-	16	61	s	Ross-o-wye	15.0	-	28	82	s
Eastbourne	15.2	-	19	66	s	Ryde	15.1	-	22	72	s
Edinburgh	8.0	-	17	63	c	Salcombe	14.3	-	20	68	s
Eskdalemuir	14.7	-	24	75	s	Sandown	14.8	-	21	70	s
Exmouth	15.2	-	21	70	s	Sauntn Snd	14.1	-	28	82	s
Falmouth	14.2	-	18	64	s	Scarboro'	12.9	-	16	61	s
Fishguard	14.7	-	23	73	s	Shanklin	14.7	-	21	70	s
Folkestone	15.3	-	22	72	s	Shrewsbury	14.1	-	27	81	s
Glasgow	11.0	-	24	75	s	Skegness	15.1	-	17	63	s
Guernsey	X					Southend	X	-	20	68	s
Hastings	15.3	-	20	68	s	Southport	15.4	-	24	75	s
Hayling I	14.5	-	20	68	s	Southsea	15.2	-	19	66	s
Herne Bay	15.0	-	21	70	s	Stornoway	10.1	-	19	66	s
Hove	12.8	-	19	66	s	Swanage	14.7	-	20	68	s
Hunstanton	14.9	-	19	66	s	Teignmouth	15.4	-	21	70	s
Ilfracombe	X					Tiree	X				
Isle of Man	15.8	-	20	68	s	Torquay	14.6	-	21	70	s
Jersey	14.2	-	25	77	s	Tynemouth	X				
Kinloss	X					Ventnor	14.3	-	20	68	s
Leeds	15.0	-	27	81	s	West-s-mare	14.1	-	25	77	s
Lerwick	8.9	-	15	59	s	Weymouth	15.1	-	19	66	s
Leuchars	7.2	-	16	61	b						
Littlehmptn	15.0	-	21	70	s						

These are Thursday's figures

ABROAD

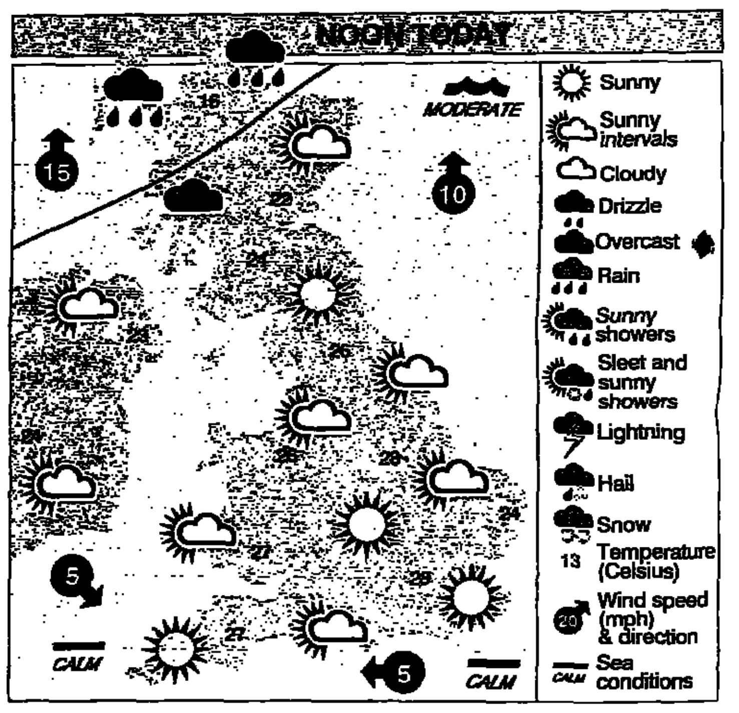
Ajaccio	28	82	s	Corfu	29	84	s	Madrid	33	91	s	Riyadh	40	104	ds
Akrotiri	28	82	s	C'phagn	19	66	s	Majorca	30	86	s	Rome	27	81	s
Alex'dria	30	86	s	Dublin	22	72	f	Malaga	26	79	s	S Fr'isco	18	64	f
Algiers	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	26	79	s	Malta	26	79	f	S Paulo	21	70	s
Amst'dm	16	61	f	Faro	27	81	s	Melb'rne	12	54	c	Salzburg	22	72	s
Athens	32	90	s	*Florence*	29	84	f	*Mexico C*	20	68	f	*Santiago*	18	64	c
B Aires	15	59	s	Frankfurt	20	68	s	Miami	X			Seoul	33	91	s
Bahrain	36	97	c	Funchal	23	73	s	Milan	27	81	s	Sing'por	32	90	s
Bangkok	31	88	f	Geneva	22	72	s	Montreal	26	79	s	St'kholm	14	57	sh
Barbados	X			Gibraltar	26	79	s	Moscow	17	63	c	Strasb'rg	22	72	s
Barcelona	28	82	s	Helsinki	13	55	c	Munich	20	68	s	Sydney	15	59	s
Beirut	29	84	s	Hong K	29	84	f	*N Delhi*	30	86	f	*Tangier*	33	91	s
Belgrade	24	75	f	Innsbrck	23	73	s	N York	32	90	s	Tel Aviv	31	88	s
Berlin	16	61	c	Istanbul	26	79	s	Nairobi	21	70	s	Tenerife	29	84	s
Bermuda	28	82	s	Jeddah	40	104	s	Naples	30	86	s	Tokyo	33	91	s
Biarritz	23	73	s	Jo'burg	11	52	f	Nice	27	81	s	Tunis	29	84	f
Borde'x	28	82	s	Karachi	X			Oslo	19	66	f	Valencia	32	90	s
Brussels	19	66	c	L Angels	22	72	s	Paris	25	77	s	Vanc'ver	14	57	f
Budapst	22	72	f	L Palmas	26	79	s	Peking	31	88	s	Venice	25	77	s
Cairo	33	91	s	Le Touqet	22	72	s	Perth	17	63	f	Vienna	21	70	f
Cape Tn	19	66	s	Lisbon	28	82	s	Prague	13	55	c	Warsaw	14	57	r
Ch'church	7	45	c	Locarno	24	75	s	Reykjavik	11	52	r	Wash'ton	25	77	r
Chicago	27	81	s	Luxembg	22	72	s	Rhodes	29	84	s	Wel'ngton	11	52	X
Cologne	19	66	s	*Luxor*	41	106	f	*Rio de J*	21	70	f	Zurich	23	73	s

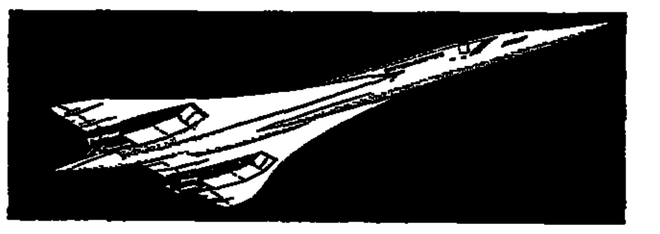
Temperatures at midday Thursday local time X – not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: lows B and G will move northeast and fill; high T will drift east with little change in central pressure

NOON TODAY





TORONTO OR NEW YORK

BA 747 to Toronto on 11 Aug, 30 Aug or 14 Sept. ● five nights at deluxe Sheraton ● city tour ● harbour cruise ● Niagara with helicopter ● Phantom of Opera ● Concorde supersonic return to Heathrow £1,999 or £2,999 with Concorde both ways on 18 Sept.

BA747 to New York on any day ● four nights at Sheraton ● Concorde supersonic return to Heathrow £1,999

BA 747 from Heathrow to New York on 31 Aug. ● three nights at Sheraton ● Concorde supersonic to Toronto ● four nights at Sheraton ● city tours and cruises ● Niagara with helicopter ● 747 to Heathrow £1,999

QE2 AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Orient-Express to Southampton on 27 Aug. ● five night QE2 cruise to New York ● two nights ● Concorde supersonic to Toronto ● four nights ● city tours ● Niagara with helicopter ● BA 747 to Heathrow £1,999

Orient-Express to Southampton on 10 Sept. ● six night QE2 cruise to Lisbon via Palma, Alicante and Cadiz ● BA767 to Heathrow £1,299 or £1,999 with Concorde

Orient-Express to Southampton on 26 Oct. ● five night QE2 cruise to Lisbon via La Rochelle, Santander and La Coruna ● Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,699

Concorde to Tenerife on 17 Nov ● four night QE2 cruise to Southampton via Agadir ● Orient-Express return £1,499

ORIANA AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Concorde supersonic to Nice on 6 Sept. ● seven night Oriana cruise from Monte-Carlo to Southampton via Sete, Ibiza & Praia da Rocha ● Orient-Express return £1,999

Twenty night Christmas & New Year Oriana cruise to the Caribbean on 15 Dec. ● Concorde return £3,999

Concorde supersonic to Santiago on 6 Jan. ● city tour ● two night Oriana cruise from Vigo to Southampton £999

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EXECUTIVE VOICE 26

Peter Davis puts in a plea for simpler pensions

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Executive on the fast track to success at Castrol

SPORT 40-48

Irish runner uses Games to track long-lost mother

THE HIDDEN ASSETS OF BAT INDUSTRIES
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY JULY 20 1996

Rolls-Royce retreat puts 2,500 jobs on the line

By Eric Reguly

ROLLS-ROYCE, the aerospace and engineering group, has placed two loss-making steam-generation businesses on the auction block and said that 2,500 jobs would be at risk if no buyers are found. The strategic retreat will cost it a total of £248 million.

Parsons Power Generation Systems, based in Newcastle upon Tyne, and International Combustion, of Derby, together lost about £30 million on sales of £280 milllion in 1995 and were showing no sign of improvement this year because of intense competition from companies such as Siemens, Asea Brown Boveri and General Electric.

Sir Ralph Robins, Rolls-Royce's chairman, said a strategic review determined that "it is increasingly unlikely that Rolls-Royce can develop a leading global position in this sector of the market."

Parsons, which employs 1,600, and International Combustion, with 900 workers, became part of Rolls-Royce's industrial power group with its acquisition of Northern Engineering Industries in 1989 for £304 million. Parsons, one of the biggest employers in the Newcastle, specialises in the design, construction and management of large steam-power projects. Combustion International manufactures the combustion systems.

A spokesman said that Rolls-Royce had been approached by potential purchasers for the divisions, but there was no guarantee they would have new owners by the of the end of the year. Rolls-Royce expects the businesses to be sold separately and is to appoint an investment bank to screen the applicants. There will be no immediate job losses, although employment will gradually decline as contracts reach completion. A £170 million charge is to be taken in the first half and will be reflected in the interim results, due on August 29.

In spite of the charge, Rolls-Royce said that it "anticipates that performance will continue to improve in the second half" because of strong sales in the aerospace group, which makes Rolls-Royce and Allison engines for military and civil aircraft.

After the sale or closure of Parsons and Combustion International, Rolls-Royce will concentrate on the market for small power-generation systems based on derivatives of aero gas turbines, such as the Trent and the WR21.

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Anne Ashworth on the building society waiting game

[illegible]

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As Sid shivers, London catches New York's cold

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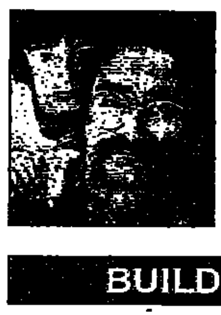

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Bus chief charged by SFO

By Robert Miller

THE founder and chairman of British Bus, the UK's third-largest bus company, was one of two men arrested yesterday by the Serious Fraud Office and charged with corruption in connection with gifts totalling £600,000.

Dawson Thomas Williams, 57, from Ringwood in Hampshire, who started British Bus in 1992, and Ian Harvey, 39, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, an officer of the First National Bank of Boston, were arrested when they reported to Bishopsgate police station in the City yesterday.

The arrests followed an investigation codenamed Ausonia. The men were charged on 15 counts of corruptly accepting payments worth £1 million as "inducements or rewards" in connection with five companies, including three in the British Bus Group, as well as Drawlane Transport Group and Surecapital.

The £600,000 figure on the charge sheet was arrived at after taking into account possible gains tax liabilities.

The arresting officer was Detective Sergeant Tony Waters of the City of London Police, and the year-long SFO investigation was headed by Peter Kiernan, an in-house fraud office lawyer for the past four years. Mr Kiernan has previously worked on some of the SFO's high-profile cases, among them Barings and Polly Peck International.

Mr Williams and Mr Harvey, who surrendered their passports, were released on bail and ordered to report to the police weekly. Mr Williams's wife provided sureties of £100,000 and business colleagues of Mr Harvey put up £30,000.

The privately-owned British Bus company is the target of an agreed bid worth £282 million from Cowie Group. A statement issued yesterday by NM Rothschild, Cowie's adviser on the forthcoming £186 million rights issue that will pay for the British Bus acquisition, noted that Mr Williams has been charged with offences under the 1906 Prevention of Corruption Act.

It is understood that under the terms of the Cowie takeover deal Mr Williams could make around £10 million.

In line with the terms of the Cowie acquisition deal, Mr Williams resigned yesterday from the board of British Bus. The Rothschild statement said that Cowie had received indemnities relating to the SFO's investigation and added: "The board of Cowie, after discussion with its advisers, reaffirms its belief that any further outcome arising from this investigation should not have a material adverse impact on British Bus, or the enlarged group."

British Bus, the UK's largest privately owned bus company, employs more than 11,000 staff. It was formed after a management buyout of Drawlane Holdings from National Express, the coach, bus and airport operator, and had planned to become a stock market company, valued at around £250 million, but this was shelved as a result of the SFO investigatiion.

The British Bus acquisition will enable Cowie, who will take on the private company's £100 million of debt, to become a national bus operator, adding services in Northumbria, North Wales, Scotland and the Midlands.

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Richard Gamble, left, and Roger Taylor, Royal and Sun Alliance deputy chairman

Insurers' merger now flying

TRADING began yesterday in shares of the newly created Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance, created through a £5.4 billion merger of the composites Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance (Marianne Curphey writes).

Shares in the merged group edged up 5p, to 370p.

About 5,000 jobs will go in restructuring, with 80 per cent of job losses expected in the UK, where both companies have head offices. The new group, of which Richard Gamble is chief executive, aims to save £175 million, about the same as reorganisation costs.

Sun Alliance has changed its name to Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance, which will be the holding company for the new group.

Somerfield cuts flotation price

By George Sivell

SOMERFIELD, the supermarkets group, has cut the price of shares to be offered in its flotation to 160p.

The price compares with the previous indicated range of 180p to 190p and reduces the value of the company from between £540 million and £570 million to £480 million. The group's advisers had said this week that they would refuse to move from the 180p to 190p price range.

Big City institutions had made it clear to Somerfield's advisers that they would only support the issue in present market conditions if the shares were competitively priced. Somerfield, formerly known as Isosceles, has been overshadowed in the supermarket price wars by Tesco, Sainsbury, Safeway and Asda.

However, last night's decision to press ahead with the flotation but at a reduced price will also reduce the value of the £5 million bonus that David Simons, the chief executive, will receive upon successful flotation of the company.

The decision to float at 160p a share also leaves the company on a low stock market rating. The shares will yield a high 8.3 per cent and stand on a multiple of 7.2 times actual earnings.

Somerfield has not been alone. Allied Carpets this week cut its asking price from £250 million to £189 million.

DTI clears bids for Lloyds Chemists

By Sarah Cunningham

UNICHEM and Gehe are poised to relaunch their battle for Lloyds Chemists after the Government said yesterday that bids by either may go ahead as long as a buyer is found within three months for some of the Lloyds wholesaling operations.

UniChem would have to sell six out of ten Lloyds regional depots used to distribute pharmaceuticals to third parties, while Gehe would have to sell seven. Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, said buyers must be identified by October 18. The two bids were put on hold in March by a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

UniChem, British owner of the Moss pharmacies, said it would be able to meet the requirements. "The remedies proposed do not alter UniChem's view that Lloyds represents an attractive opportunity," it said.

Dieter Kämmerer, Gehe's chief executive, said the Government's conditions were acceptable because he was determined to pursue Lloyds for its retail chemists chain rather than its wholesale operations. But he said it was difficult "to overlook that shedding the depots will cut around 10 per cent of revenues".

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3710.5	(+17.1)
Yield	4.08%	
FT-SE A All share	1841.45	(+9.04)
Nikkei	21476.29	(-90.13)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5436.81	(-27.37)*
S&P Composite	638.81	(-4.75)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 7/16%*	(5 3/16%)
Long Bond	88 9/16*	(88 7/16)
Yield	6.95%*	(6.92%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	5 23/32%	(5 23/32%)
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	106 13/16	(106 15/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5462*	(1.5449)
London:		
$	1.5474	(1.5455)
DM	2.3032	(2.3053)
FFr	7.8012	(7.8120)
SFr	1.8824	(1.8841)
Yen	167.48	(167.98)
£ Index	84.7	(84.8)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4880*	(1.4925)
FFr	5.0465*	(5.0545)
SFr	1.2170*	(1.2195)
Yen	108.24*	(108.43)
$ Index	96.2	(96.5)

Tokyo close Yen 108.20

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Oct)	$19.00	($18.95)

GOLD

London close	$385.15	($383.75)

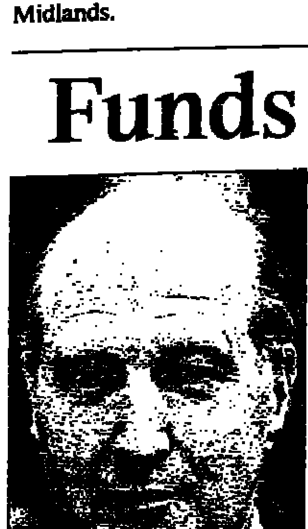
* denotes midday trading price

Shares steady

The London stock market ended a volatile week on a steady note, with investors taking their lead from soothing comments on the US economy by Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, and an 87-point leap overnight on Wall Street. Page 30

Funds throw Sterling a lifeline

By Martin Waller



Lord Sterling: embattled

A CORE of supportive fund managers could assure the survival of Lord Sterling as chairman of P&O, the embattled shipping to transport group that has underperformed the rest of the stock market by 50 per cent over the past ten years.

Lord Sterling's position has been undermined by research purporting to show that three quarters of P&O's institutional shareholders want him to stand down. But institutions speaking for a quarter or more of the company are thought to be prepared to give the existing management another two years' grace.

None were talking formally last night, but it is thought that fund managers such as Mercury Asset Management, Gartmore, the Prudential and Schroders have indicated privately to Lord Sterling that their patience is not yet exhausted. His position was boosted by the decision of Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, to allow P&O and its Channel ferry rival Stena to consider a merger.

Lord Sterling's critics will be handed further ammunition next week when first-half operating figures are released, ahead of a set of interim figures that even Sterling loyalists accept will be awful.

City disenchantment with P&O management stems from its failure to make disposals, particularly of property assets, that has left the balance sheet overstretched and the dividend barely covered.

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To put it simply, everybody needs a proper pension

EXECUTIVE VOICE

Peter Davis

When he died in 1616 at the ripe old age of 52, Shakespeare was truly the grand old man of English literature. Today he would be merely middle aged and looking forward to another 30 years of active life, a few more plays and a serialisation of his biography in a Sunday supplement.

Advances in medical science and changes in lifestyle and working practices mean that we will all now live a great deal longer than our grandfathers and even our fathers. By the year 2020, 18 per cent of the UK population will be 65 or over. On an average day in that year there will be 11 million pensioners enjoying retirement, with only another 38 million citizens at work. And retirement will not be just a couple of years' rest at the end of a long working life, but a "holiday" of 15 or 20 years and hopefully much longer.

Funding these long periods of retirement for such a large section of the population is an expense that the state can no longer afford to bear on its own. More must be done to encourage individuals to provide sufficient funds to purchase a decent pension for their retirement. Currently 40 per cent of the population are relying on the basic state pension to fund their retirement, while less than 1 per cent of pensioners make full use of the tax relief available to them when funding their pension. The costs of building up enough capital to provide for a reasonable pension means that it is important to start saving early. However, a lack of interest and, perhaps more important, a lack of understanding mean that this is left far too late.

As things stand today, people have a bewildering array of pension savings options available, some of which they can use and others which they cannot, depending on whether they are employed or self-employed.

If you are employed and your employer runs a pension scheme, it may be defined benefit or money purchase. Different rules apply to savers in each case. It may not be a scheme at all, it could be a grouping of personal pensions which just looks like a scheme and so on and so forth.

Our pensions system is labyrinthine in its complexity and is being made more and more complex with extra layers of regulations being added as each year passes. Even those who work in the industry now find it hard to understand pensions and, more importantly, to explain them to other people.

People struggling to understand how to save for their retirement must look enviously at the simplicity of products such as Peps. It is absurd that it is now easier for the average man in the street to invest in the stock market than to put money aside for a pension.

To combat this, Prudential has produced, in conjunction with a number of other pensions industry experts and individuals from the National Association of Pension Funds and the Consumers' Association, a report which, under the banner of simplifying pensions, suggests a number of common-sense moves to remove many of the unnecessary complications which beset people trying to save for their retirement.

First, all adults should be allowed to contribute to a pension irrespective of how much they earn or whether they are employed, self-employed or, indeed, unemployed.

Secondly, people should be allowed to pay as much as they wish into their pension and this money should also be subject to tax relief. If this is too bitter a pill for the Inland Revenue to swallow, then we suggest basing the limit of how much you can pay into your pension, not on a percentage or earnings, but on a simple £6,000 a year limit or a lifetime contribution of £240,000.

Thirdly, the money you pay into your pension should be allowed to come from any source, eg, not just your own income, but, if you're not working, your partner's income.

Fourthly, existing benefit limits should be removed. Currently people in company pension schemes are only allowed to take up to two-thirds of their pay as a pension at retirement. Why? No good reason as far as I can see. Therefore, benefit limits should be removed and people allowed to fund their pension to whatever level they can afford.

What is interesting about these proposals is that if you put them in front of someone not baptised into the priesthood of pensions, they think these freedoms already exist and they are dismayed to discover that unfortunately life is not as easy as that.

As well as offering a number of simple options, I would also suggest taking a couple of things away.

Pensions have to provide people with an income for perhaps up to 30 years, therefore the idea that you can take up to 25 per cent out of your pension as a tax-free lump sum to spend on a holiday is now an anomaly and we should consider phasing it out.

Freedom of choice is invariably a good thing. However, extending freedom of choice so that people may or may not save for their retirement can have the unfortunate effect of some people choosing to be better off now at the expense of being poor after they finish work. The right to leave an employer's pension scheme and do nothing in its place means anyone doing so will almost certainly be poorer in retirement. It is easy to understand why people do this. Generally, take-home pay goes up as a result of not making pension contributions, but this is a short-term gain and is not in the individual's ultimate interest. The freedom to allow people to opt out of their employer's pension scheme should be reconsidered.

Saving for your retirement is not a simple affair. Many people get bogged down in the intricacies of regulation and legislation and keep putting the decision off. But this decision cannot be put off indefinitely. Hopefully a simpler, easy-to-understand pension will go some way towards encouraging people to put more money away for their retirement at an earlier stage.

In the early 1960s John F. Kennedy said: "Society has produced a medical revolution which extends human life but has failed to create an accompanying financial revolution which sustains it in dignity." Thirty years on we have the financial mechanisms to help people to support themselves in retirement; the problem is they can't understand them.

☐ *Peter Davis is group chief executive of Prudential Corporation*

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CHANGING TIMES

Burton wins Innovations with £45m bid

By Clare Stewart

BURTON GROUP is to move into home shopping through the acquisition of Innovations, the mail order company.

The agreed offer by Burton, which owns the Debenhams, Top Shop and Dorothy Perkins chains, values each Innovations share at 310p and the company at £44.9 million.

News of the agreed bid, together with encouraging sales figures from Burton, prompted analysts to upgrade profit forecasts, boosting the shares.

Shareholders can choose between shares, cash or a loan note alternative. Shares of Innovations, which was formerly known as Kleeneze, had closed at 212p on Thursday.

Burton also announced that group sales in the 19 weeks to July 13 rose by 8.5 per cent, led by Debenhams where sales increased by 8.8 per cent. Gross margins have also improved, up 2.1 per cent, reflecting "better trading and supply chain improvements."

Burton said its acquisition of Innovations was "a strategic opportunity" to get into the home shopping market. Andrew Higginson, Burton's finance director, said: "It is a natural development of the Burton brands." Burton hopes to have the first catalogues for the individual chains operating within two years.

Holders of 50.54 per cent of Innovations shares, including the directors, are backing the Burton offer. Nigel Swabey, a former director who left after a boardroom row in 1994, and who holds 15.4 per cent, is also believed to support the offer.

Shares in Burton ended at 151½p, up 6¾p, while Innovations closed up 101p at 313p.

Tempus, page 30

Lang clears £1.7bn water bid by ScottishPower

By Our City Staff

IAN LANG, President of the Board of Trade, has cleared ScottishPower's £1.68 billion bid for Southern Water.

The DTI said yesterday that ScottishPower had confirmed its agreement to reductions in the allowable price increases for Southern Water's regulated water business over the period 1997 to 2000. ScottishPower offered cuts of 3 per cent in permitted price levels in the two years from April 1998.

Mr Lang added that ScottishPower had given assurances that it would address concerns over the loss of comparative information on the performance of water companies resulting from Southern Water's removal from the Stock Exchange.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.05	1.89
Austria Sch	17.22	15.72
Belgium Fr	50.51	46.21
Canada $	2.215	2.055
Cyprus Cyp£	0.7486	0.6916
Denmark Kr	9.47	8.67
Finland Mkk	7.57	6.92
France Fr	8.23	7.58
Germany Dm	2.460	2.250
Greece Dr	380	355
Hong Kong $	12.59	11.59
Iceland ISK	113	93
Ireland Pt	1.017	0.937
Israel Shk	5.31	4.68
Italy Lira	2454	2299
Japan Yen	181.80	165.80
Malta	0.593	0.538
Netherlds Gld	2.740	2.510
New Zealand $	2.38	2.18
Norway Kr	10.45	9.65
Portugal Esc	248.00	229.50
S Africa Rd	7.37	6.57
Spain Pta	201.50	188.50
Sweden Kr	10.88	10.08
Switzerland Fr	2.017	1.837
Turkey Lira	132816	124616
USA $	1.641	1.511

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

INVESTOR INVASION

"Directors of United Utilities and Eurotherm have discovered that shareholders are no longer passive. The new breed of aggressive investors are demanding a bigger say in the companies they own . . ."

Business Focus, The Sunday Times tomorrow

[illegible]

A WORKING WEEK FOR: TIM STEVENSON

High-speed life oiling the wheels of Castrol

Jon Ashworth meets the chief executive whose ambition is to spread his company's products to all corners of the globe

WHEN the big names in motorcycle racing scream down the track at Donington Park tomorrow, one fan will not be there to cheer them on. Tim Stevenson will be on his way to Colombia as part of a routine that finds him in China one week, clinching a deal, or in a distant corner of Russia, downing vodkas with hard-nosed locals. His life turns on the fortunes of Castrol, whose lubricants have been breaking records, and snatching chequered flags, for the best part of a century — there is a world to conquer and motor sport must wait.

All eyes at tomorrow's British Motorcycle Grand Prix will be on Luca Cadalora, riding a Honda 500cc emblazoned with the Castrol colours. Castrol spends £100 million a year on brand promotion, with much of the money devoted to sponsoring superbikes, rally cars and powerboats. The company is associated with the Thrust SSC assault on the land speed record, led by Richard Noble, the current holder. Victory rams home the message: Castrol means success.

"There's something particularly romantic about going very fast across the earth," says Stevenson, 48, who became chief executive of Castrol International three summers ago. "We've always wanted to be associated with that." Founded by C.C. Wakefield in 1899, Castrol has long been involved with record-breaking attempts. During the 1920s, it was said that four out of five British car races were won on Wakefield Castrol. The elixir helped Sir Malcolm Campbell and his son, Donald, to successive world speed record triumphs.

> There is romance in going very fast across the earth

Castrol has long since lost its crown to competitors like Shell, Mobil and BP. Stevenson has his work cut out, driving a team that takes in 10,000 people in 150 countries, and generates 70 per cent of the profit earned by Burmah Castrol, its parent company, which took on the expanded name in 1990. The company made a pre-tax profit of £253 million last year, on sales of more than £3 billion. As Western markets decline, Castrol and its rivals are looking to Asia, where sales of cars and motorbikes are soaring. Everyone wants a slice.

"It's a key plank of our forward corporate strategy to grow our business in Asia Pacific very substantially because that's where all the growing markets are," says Stevenson. "They're significantly growing markets, both in terms of volume and in terms of technical sophistication. Making sure that we maximise our presence there is absolutely vital."

Castrol moved its Asian head office from the UK to Hong Kong in January, at a cost of £2 million a year. "The incremental expense of having that team in Hong Kong is quite significant, but we moved them because of a feeling that they needed to be in, and of, those developing market places; to live, breathe and feel them on a day-to-day basis."

Hong Kong was chosen in spite of fears about the forthcoming handover to China. "We were prepared to take the risk of 1997. If it really goes bad, and the Red Army starts shooting at everybody, we'll have to pull the team out, but we think the probability is very small."

Castrol is long established in Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia, and is anxious to gain market share in Japan, Korea and China. Stevenson recently clinched a joint venture in Shenzhen, ready to flood the local market with Castrol lubricants. "You can take a view that over a 15-year period we've got to get it right in China, or all the effort that we're putting into Asia will be wasted."

The greatest success so far has been in Vietnam, which has grown in four years to become a vastly important market. "The Vietnam story is the best example that we've got of taking the Castrol formula into a brand-new territory and building the thing from scratch," says Stevenson. Billboards and stickers have sprouted all over Ho Chi Minh City. Local marketeers have campaigned to get Castrol stickers on the back of as many motorbikes as possible.

The strategy appears to have worked. Stevenson recalls: "The first time I went there, I was wheeled in by our general manager to see a number of government ministers, one of whom said: 'Ah, yes, Castrol Best Quality Lubricants' — that's the theme on which we've marketed the product. We'd used all the media to drum home the message, and he'd absorbed it. It was lovely to have it played back from that level."

A similar exercise is under way in India, which was recently freed up for greater competition. "We did it in exactly the way we've done it in Vietnam: by blanketing the market with Castrol imagery and driving the business forward. You go to the remotest parts of India, and you see walls that are plastered with the Castrol logo and the Castrol colours."

Stevenson spends an average of ten days a month travelling, although the pace has eased recently. When he became chief executive he set himself the task of visiting all Castrol's subsidiaries within three years. South America is the last big gap — hence his latest trip.

Much of his time is spent talking to Castrol clients and staff, eager to win a feel for the dynamics of the business. Discussions inevitably lead to the local bar. "Castrol executives are great drinkers, and a lot of the flavour of what's really going on in an organisation you get from people late at night in the bar: 'Now let me tell you this', 'Why the bloody hell don't you do this', and 'You got that one completely wrong, didn't you?'"

Contracts in Russia often depend on the ability to down several glasses of vodka.

NICK RAY

Tim Stevenson tops up at Burmah Castrol House, Swindon. "The job that I've got is challenging enough without thinking too much about what happens next."

On the road, Stevenson heeds the advice of Burmah Castrol's chief executive. "Jonathan Fry, who did the job before me, said: 'One of the most important things in this job is to make sure you get lots of sleep whenever you can'. He's my boss, now."

When in the UK, Stevenson divides his time between head office in Swindon, a smaller London outpost, and home in Oxford, where he lives with his wife, Marion, and their three daughters. We meet at the Castrol Technology Centre in Pangbourne, Berkshire, awash with white-coated technicians and idling engines. Stevenson is cordial but intensely focused, rarely deviating from the script as the Castrol story unfolds.

Wakefield, the son of a lay preacher, started out with railway lubricants in the early 1900s, and emerged, for a time, as Ford's recommended supplier. His mixture of castor and mineral oil was hailed as Britain's "secret weapon" in the First World War, enabling Handley Page bombers to fly above the range of German guns at dauntingly low temperatures. Consumer success followed.

A lawyer by trade, Stevenson started 20 years ago in Burmah's legal department, then switched to planning, before a stint running Castrol's operations in Spain. "It was fantastic fun," he says. "I was on my own, in a sense, because of the Castrol tradition, which is when you're in charge of a Castrol company you're left very much to your own devices provided things go all right." Last year, things did not go all right in Brazil, which suffered losses of £9 million. A new management team has since been drafted in.

When he was approaching 40, Stevenson signed up at London Business School for an accelerated MBA course. He has experienced most sides of a business that provides lubricants for metalworking, fuels ships and is used to hydraulically control well-heads on the ocean floor. "I've had a fantastic opportunity of seeing different bits of the group, and very different sorts of management issues to handle."

Stevenson continues to pack in the overseas trips, and runs two or three times a week to keep in shape. He has had some hairy moments, once careering down a Turkish hillside in an old black Mercedes after the brakes failed. "Luckily the guy who was driving it was pretty competent, and using the handbrake and the gears and a bit of gravel that happened to appear on the right hand side, he managed to stop."

Stopping will be no less an issue in Nevada's Black Rock desert in September, when Andy Green, an RAF test pilot, attempts to steer Thrust SSC to a new land speed record. Castrol is one of dozens of sponsors to the project, which will bring its own set of rewards. "If he succeeds in shoving a car across the desert at north of 840 miles per hour, the exploitation opportunities are fantastic."

Stevenson could well be running Burmah Castrol within a couple of years, although he will not be drawn on his ambitions. "The job that I've got is big enough and challenging enough without thinking too much about what happens next. To worry about that too much actually wouldn't be terribly constructive. It would take my eye off the ball, and the ball is coming fast enough as it is."

HIDDEN ASSETS

Essence of beauty pervades a chairman's dining room

Portraits of 'the ideal woman' provide a talking point at BAT, says Joanna Pitman

BAT Industries, the tobacco and financial services group, is not normally associated with scent, cosmetics and visions of female beauty. Yet, it has a rather curiously provocative collection of portraits of fragrant young women in its Windsor House office in Victoria Street, London. At first glance, a visitor could be excused for recoiling at the sight of these semi-clad beauties, wondering if they might be portraits of particularly self-indulgent female BAT executives or, more likely, a selection of the most attractive directors' wives.

Hanging in a group in the chairman's dining room and dotted around the offices of senior executives, they are in fact a series of paintings of "the ideal woman", as conceived by leading artists of the 1960s. The series was commissioned in the mid-1960s when BAT owned a number of cosmetics and fragrance houses, including Yardley and Lentheric, companies which were sold in 1985 as British and American Cosmetics to Beecham.

Lentheric clearly had a flair for publicity, for it dreamt up the idea of commissioning these 12 portraits of female beauty to publicise a new fragrance named Lentheric 12. In the words of its publicity alchemists of the day: "Lentheric wanted a perfume that would appeal to women everywhere so they went to 12 of the world's best-known painters and commissioned them to paint their ideal of feminine beauty. Then these highly individual pictures were hung together in France. And from them, Lentheric's skilled perfumiers drew their inspiration." This came in all forms.

Salvador Dali's watercolour depicts a young girl, big of hip and breast, blonde and barely covered, in Venus de Milo pose, pouting dreamily at the artist as a single pink rose clings and clambers up her thighs. Franco Gentilini, an Italian whose work hangs in modern art galleries in Rome, Venice and Milan, produced a large semi-abstract oil painting of a naked woman clasping a tulip. It hangs by the lifts in the office corridor (clearly the more provocative pictures have been kept out of the chairman's dining room, lest important clients choke on their starters). The Gentilini dame has long been a curiosity, "a bit of a talking point" as BAT employees refer to it, for her peculiar double nipple which looks as if it might have been added by the pencil of a passerby waiting for the lift.

Not all are abstract. Some artists painted their girlfriends, wives or sisters, others shut themselves away and dreamt up their ideal woman. The resulting range of vision, tone and style is broad. Pietro Annigoni, regarded by Lentheric as "the world's greatest living portrait painter", did a rather subdued but finely executed crayon-and-wash head and shoulders. It hangs in the office of the finance director.

Dali painted one of the Lentheric 12 portraits

One portrait from the original collection of 12 has been sold. This was a huge Peter Blake pop art oil painting of Cryla, the only named portrait in the collection and a fine example of his brash and brightly coloured work.

All in all, the remaining Lentheric 11 are a pretty idiosyncratic group which by no means appeals to all tastes.

Suzanne Fisher, of the public affairs department, is in favour: "Once you recognise they're a collection, they become quite a curiosity. I think they are quite fun, although many regard them as rather sexist."

Lord Cairns, the new chairman of BAT Industries and a man of classical artistic tastes, is said to be ambivalent about them.

The present finance director, who stares daily at the Annigoni beauty hanging on his wall, may in fact turn out to have been their champion all along, preventing them from going under the hammer at Christie's.

On the other hand, he may be aware that they are worth only £75,000 and are better preserved for their lunchtime conversation value.

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TI165

Parcels firm lifts profits

Nightfreight, the nationwide parcels delivery company that is likely to benefit from the Post Office strike, yesterday reported a rise in profits to £1.81 million before tax, from £1.37 million, in the half-year to the end of May.

Earnings improved to 2.61p a share from 2p and the interim dividend is lifted to 1.3p from 1.13p. Turnover rose to £38.3 million from £25.4 million.

Sun Life move

Sun Life, which came to the stock market last month, announced yesterday that Simon McClean, the managing director of its asset management arm, is to step down because of ill-health. He will be replaced by Paul Whitney, who has been appointed chief executive from August 20.

Greycoat buys

Shares in Greycoat, the property group, gained 6½p yesterday as the company spent £5 million buying up stock in the market. HSBC James Capel, the stock broker, acquired 3.57 million shares at 140p, amounting to just under 3 per cent of the issued share capital. Greycoat said yesterday that it had authority from shareholders to buy up to 5 per cent of the existing ordinary shares.

Panasonic jobs

A £7.6 million expansion by Panasonic, the Japanese company, will create 300 new jobs in Cardiff. The company is extending its microwave oven output, and is planning to develop a new line of digital televisions.

Equitas

Colin Maltby has been appointed chief investment officer of Equitas, not chief executive officer as reported yesterday.

Salperton, the village in the Cotswolds bought by Barry Houghton last November, after his company had been floated

US group offers £80m to take over Rainford

By Sarah Cunningham

BARRY HOUGHTON, chairman and founder of the Rainford group, is set to make a second fortune when he receives nearly £13 million in cash from an £80 million takeover launched yesterday by Reltec, the private US group.

Mr Houghton's family trust took about £8 million in cash in April last year when Rainford, which makes telecommunications components, was floated for £64 million. He maintained a 47 per cent stake in the company.

In November, Mr Houghton, 48, bought Salperton, a Cotswold village complete with manor house, 1,650 acres, a Norman church and a working farm.

Mr Houghton founded the company in 1971, after leaving Alcan and selling his Oxfordshire home. He moved to St Helens, where he had grown up, and used the £1,500 profit from the house sale to set up Rainford.

As a listed company, Rainford, which manufactures base station cabinet enclosures for mobile phone networks, has had mixed fortunes. After buoyant trading in the first six months, a slowdown in growth and a rescheduling of orders punished its share price.

Houghton: second fortune

Mr Houghton said yesterday that he thought the share markdown earlier this year was an overreaction, but otherwise he had enjoyed his brief experience at the helm of a listed company. Rainford revealed that its pre-tax profit rose 15 per cent, to £6.1 million, on sales of £79 million.

Reltec's offer consists of 335p a share in cash, the same as Rainford's closing price yesterday after a jump of 20p. Shareholders will also receive a second interim dividend of 5p declared today. There is also a loan note alternative and a share alternative of 0.411 new Reltec shares for each Rainford share.

Reltec purchased 1.1 million shares yesterday, equal to a 4.6 per cent stake in Rainford. This ensures that, with Mr Houghton's 47 per cent irrevocably committed, the deal will go through. While Mr Houghton is taking £13 million in cash, he will invest the rest of the £35 million he will make from the takeover in Reltec shares. He is to join its board and will run all its wireless activities, except those in North America.

Reltec is backed by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the leveraged buyout specialist. It has bought Rainford to help it to develop in "an increasingly global market". The company makes a wide range of telecommunications components and has a service division.

It has sales offices in America, Canada, Mexico, Hong Kong, Singapore, Costa Rica and the UK, with a workforce of about 3,000. Together, the two groups will have an annual turnover of more than £410 million and a "reduced dependence on specific markets and greater access to resources", Reltec said.

Son takes centre stage after major reshuffle at Sun International

Jon Ashworth on the management changes that see a change of role for Sol Kerzner

GILL ALLEN

Butch Kerzner: day-to-day control of hotels company

Sol Kerzner, the South African-born leisure tycoon, has given up day-to-day running of Sun International Hotels, the international gaming resort company. His son, Butch, 32, becomes president of the company, under a wide-ranging corporate reshuffle.

Mr Kerzner, 60, remains chairman and chief executive officer of Sun International Hotels, whose interests range from hotels in Mauritius to the Atlantis resort and casino on Paradise Island in the Bahamas. He hopes to devote more time to strategic issues, including planning a $350 million extension to Atlantis. His latest project, the new $300 million Mohegan Sun resort in Connecticut, is due to open in October.

Butch Kerzner takes on responsibility for financial, administrative and corporate functions. A former banker with Lazard Fréres in New York, he will work alongside two other senior Sun executives: Kevin DeSanctis, head of North American and Caribbean operations, and Peter Venison, who is responsible for Europe and the Indian Ocean.

Sun International Hotels has expanded steadily since Sol Kerzner left South Africa for the UK in the 1980s. The company has interests in five hotels on Mauritius, including Le Saint Géran and Le Touessrok, has a resort in the Comoros islands, north of Madagascar, and owns four casinos in France. Lately, the focus has switched to America and the Caribbean, where the redevelopment of Paradise Island has proved a stimulus to foreign investment in the Bahamas. Newcomers include Walt Disney, which had been seeking an island destination for cruise-ship passengers. Cruises will complement its Florida theme-park operations.

The son of Russian immigrants, Mr Kerzner built South Africa's first five-star hotel, the Beverly Hills at Umhlanga Rocks, near Durban, in 1964, and went on to transform the country's leisure industry. He opened a string of casinos in the nominal black homelands, and pioneered Sun City in the bushveld to the west of Johannesburg. An extension, The Lost City, opened in 1992.

Mr Kerzner has been dogged by allegations that he paid a £500,000 bribe to secure casino rights in the former Transkei homeland. Some ascribe this to the difficulties of doing business in parts of Africa.

Sun International Hotels was formed in May 1994 as a vehicle for Mr Kerzner's expansion outside South Africa. Backers include Caledonia Investments, associated with the Cayzer shipping family. Sun International Hotels is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, and reported net income of $18.4 million on net revenues of $215 million last year. The company's market value has grown from $150 million to $1.5 billion in the space of two years.

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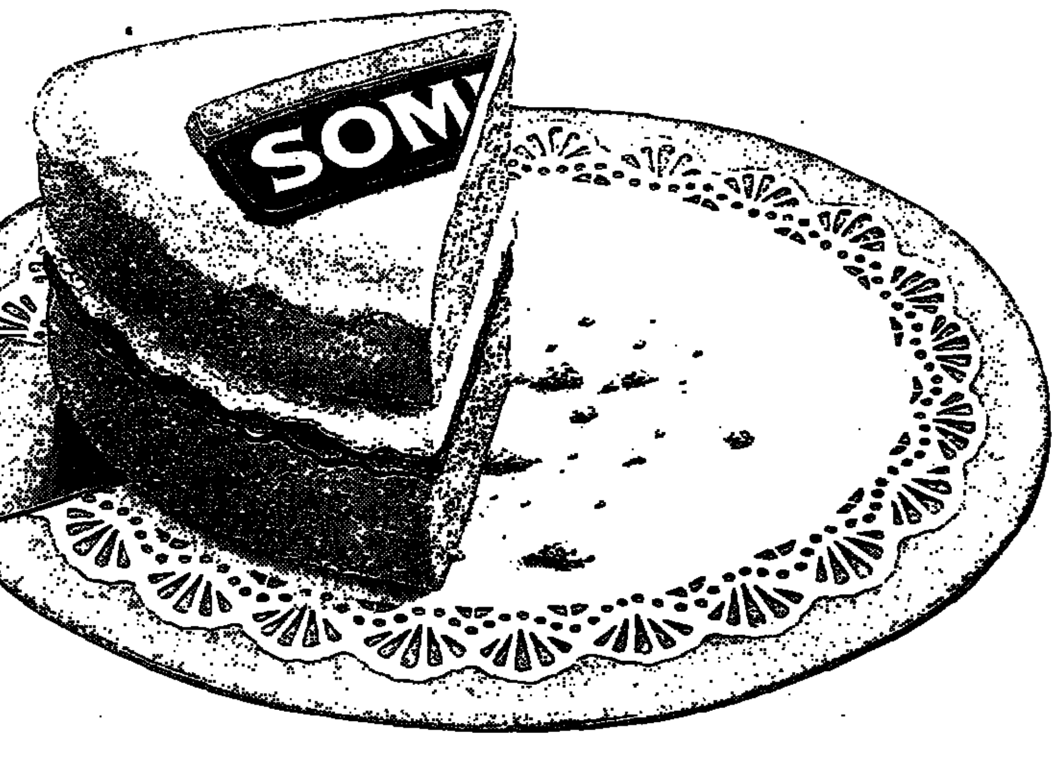


SE clique is blocking reforms, say MPs

By Robert Miller

THE London Stock Exchange has allowed itself to be dominated by a clique of members pushing their own short-term interests and blocking reforms, a House of Commons report concluded yesterday.

However, members of the Commons Treasury Select Committee, in their interim report on the future of the Stock Exchange, expressed the hope that "there is still time for the Exchange to reform itself".

The MPs, headed by Sir Tom Arnold, noted with concern that "a major problem with the London Stock Exchange has been the appearance that the short-term sectional interests of those who work in the market, in particular market-makers, have sometimes predominated and blocked necessary changes".

The committee also expressed concern that the exchange did not appear to be fighting strongly enough to secure London's position at the centre of the 24-hour global trading cycle. The report said: "Despite threats from continental exchanges, the London Stock Exchange still appears to have great difficulty in taking a strategic view on important issues and following a coherent policy through to fruition. This is particularly apparent with the plan to introduce order-driven trading."

The MPs noted strong support for a move to order-driven trading from sources outside the City, such as BP. The oil company had told the committee: "Overseas investors like to deal in a market that is clean, easily understood, visible and liquid. They will avoid a market that is complicated and secretive. Delayed reporting, hidden markets and the expense perceived of the market-makers' spread, all help to turn business away from the London market."

On the basis of BP's statement, the MPs said: "Such evidence reinforces the view that in order to compete effectively for foreign capital, the exchange will need to abandon the market-maker/client method of doing business in the FT-SE 100 shares in favour of a transparent order book."

The Stock Exchange broadly welcomed the report, but rejected the view expressed by the MPs about London's standing against other European exchanges. The exchange said that trading in London and Irish equities last year totalled £646 billion, its highest ever, while trading of foreign equities reached £791 billion, the world's highest total.

Excalibur slumps to £5.7m loss

EXCALIBUR GROUP, the manufacturer of precision engineering components and supplier of consumer products, incurred pre-tax losses of £5.7 million in the year to April 30, compared with profits of £2.1 million in the previous year.

Losses included net exceptional charges of £6.3 million against restructuring costs, disposals and writedowns. The operating profits were £852,000 (£1.46 million) and there was a loss of 7.6p a share, compared with earnings of 2.3p. The total dividend is held at 0.75p a share, with a 0.45p final. The company is to be renamed Arabis.

TONY WHITE

Ian Tegner, left, Crest Packaging chairman, and Rodney Webb, managing director

Crest on top of volatile year

CREST PACKAGING, the carton manufacturer, weathered volatility in worldwide pulp prices to lift its pre-tax profits 14 per cent, to £3.2 million, in the year to April 30.

The group was hit by soaring raw material prices in its first half, but recovered margins in the second to lift overall operating profit to £3.3 million (£2.8 million). Both its flexible packaging and carton divisions increased market share. A 2.75p final dividend holds the total at 4.125p although earnings rose to 6.2p a share (5.3p).

Crest said its new £3.5 million Cerutti gravure press could lift productivity 30 per cent in its next financial year.

Manchester to vie for Australian airports

From Rachel Bridge in Sydney

MANCHESTER AIRPORT, in consortium with Serco, the UK facilities management group, has emerged as the second British bidder for Australia's airports in a proposed A$2 billion (£1.02 billion) privatisation.

The consortium, which includes Australia's Macquarie Bank, is understood to be analysing four major airports with a view to making a bid this year. The Australian Government is expected to put the Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth airports up for sale within a year, with the remaining 19 airports to be sold in batches over the next few years.

Manchester Airport and Serco will be competing with BAA, the British airport operator, which aims to buy Australian airports with Australian fund-manager partners.

Chris Bowman, executive director of Serco Asia Pacific, said: "We are very interested in managing Australian airports. We have already got a base in technical operations in Australia."

Bank set to end dilemma over LAL

By Marianne Curphey

LLOYDS Abbey Life's relationship with Lloyds TSB faces a radical reshaping as LAL prepares to unveil its interim results next week.

Lloyds TSB owns 62.6 per cent of LAL and has been under pressure to resolve the relationship by buying the minority interest or selling part or all of it.

LAL operates Black Horse Financial Services and Lloyds Bank Insurance Services and sells financial products to Lloyds Bank customers. There is considerable overlap between its products and those of TSB. LAL also has a direct-selling insurer, Abbey Life. David Nisbet, a NatWest analyst, believes there would be considerable scope for cost-cutting if Lloyds TSB bought the minority stake in LAL and restructured the operation.

At Friday's closing price of 529p, Lloyds would have to pay about £1.4 billion for the minority stake in LAL plus a hefty premium. Some of this cost could be offset by selling the Black Horse estate agency chain, and Bowmaker, the finance house.

Alternatively, Abbey Life, the direct sales operation might be sold. A potential bidder would need to offer a high price to replace the cash profits it is generating. Prudential Corporation has been touted as a possible bidder, although it is believed to be more interested in acquiring a building society.

Either way, change could be good news for LAL shareholders, who have had to live with uncertainty over their stock since the merger last December. Shares in LAL rose in anticipation of its results on Wednesday and amid hopes of an increased dividend and more news on the restructuring talks.

LAL, which is looking to buy a mutual life assurer, is expected to announce a 10 per cent increase in its interim dividend. NatWest Securities has pencilled in a six-month pre-tax profit figure of £215 million, up from £197 million.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Heywood Williams pays £34m for Mila

HEYWOOD WILLIAMS, the aluminium, plastics and glass products group, has bought Mila, a Danish distribution company, for £34.5 million. The acquisition makes Heywood the UK's market leader in the distribution of plastic window fittings, adding to its Window Ware subsidiary. Mila already generates 70 per cent of its sales from the UK, with 10 per cent coming from Ireland and the rest from Scandinavia and the Benelux countries.

Mila's head office is to be moved from Denmark to Daventry, Northamptonshire. In 1995, its sales grew to £41 million, taking profits to £5 million. Its net assets were £13 million. The acquisition, Heywood's largest since 1994, lifts group gearing from 10 per cent to 45 per cent. The group said that this would be reduced by cash generated from existing activities, adding that first-half trading was already ahead.

Shell eyes Ukraine

SHELL OIL may invest up to $1 billion in gas pipeline and oil drilling projects in Ukraine, the energy adviser to Leonid Kuchma, the Ukrainian President, said yesterday. Volodymyr Ryzhkov said Ukraine would give preference to Shell's proposal to drill for oil in four areas of Ukraine's Black Sea shelf. The company has already won four drilling licences, he said. "Shell will win the right to drill portions of the Black Sea shelf because other Western companies who have expressed interest are not ready for Ukraine," he added.

Radio station sold

INDEPENDENT Radio Group (IRG) has acquired Central Scotland Radio (CSR) from Grampian Television for £5.25 million. CSR, established in 1993, operates Scot FM in central Scotland. In the year to February 29 the business lost £981,000 before tax. To fund the acquisition and further developments IRG is raising £8.7 million through a placing of new shares at 115p each. Existing shares rose 1p to 130p yesterday. The company is selling a 20 per cent interest in Q96, which broadcasts in the Scot FM region, for £880,000.

Chesterton buys WML

CHESTERTON International, the property consultancy, has acquired Workplace Management (WML), the principal business of which is the supply of facilities management services to ICL, for £5.2 million. WML employs about 230 staff at 60 ICL sites throughout the UK, with major centres at Manchester and Bracknell. The company is being sold by 3i, the venture capital group, and the family interests of Ken Smith and David Walker, its two executive directors.

Readicut acquisition

READICUT INTERNATIONAL, the manufacturer of specialist textile products, is acquiring Alan Farrow Group, a privately owned supplier of materials and services for the wall coverings industry, for £28.8 million in cash and shares. AFG, which is based in Lancashire, earned operating profits of £4.3 million on sales of £44.5 million in the year to September 30. Readicut said that it would finance the cash element of the purchase price from existing resources. The shares were unchanged at 58p.

This notice has been issued in accordance with the requirements of London Stock Exchange Limited (the "London Stock Exchange") for the purposes of section 154 of the Financial Services Act 1986. It should be read in conjunction with the prospectus dated 11 July 1996 ("the Prospectus") relating to Somerfield plc ("Somerfield"), prepared in accordance with the listing rules of the London Stock Exchange made under section 142 of the Financial Services Act 1986 (the "FSA"), which alone contains full details of Somerfield, the Ordinary Shares and the Offer. A mini prospectus (the "Mini Prospectus") relating to the Offer has also been published and is available as set out below. Words and expressions defined in the Prospectus have the same meaning when used in this notice unless the context requires otherwise. The Prospectus has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies in London in accordance with section 149 of the FSA. Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of Somerfield to be admitted to the Official List of the London Stock Exchange. It is expected that admission to the Official List will become effective and that dealings in the Ordinary Shares will commence on 2 August 1996.

SOMERFIELD

Somerfield plc

(Incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1967 with registered number 1162517)

Offer by Kleinwort Benson Limited

of 300,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each at a price expected to be between 180p and 190p per share payable in full on application, of which a minimum of 60,000,000 Ordinary Shares are being made available to the public and listing on the London Stock Exchange, sponsored by Kleinwort Benson Limited. The principal activity of Somerfield plc and its subsidiaries is food retailing. Copies of the Prospectus and the Mini Prospectus may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (excluding Saturdays) until 25 July 1996 from:

Kleinwort Benson Limited
20 Fenchurch Street
London EC3P 3DB

Somerfield plc
Somerfield House
Whitchurch Lane
Bristol BS14 0TJ

Lloyds Bank Plc
Lloyds Bank Registrars
Antholin House
71 Queen Street, London EC4N 1SL

NatWest Securities Limited
135 Bishopsgate
London EC2M 3XT

GUIDE TO COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

1 **Put in Box 1 your full name and address (please use BLOCK CAPITALS).**

Applications may not be made by anyone aged under 18 (under 20 in Jersey). A parent or guardian of a minor may, however, apply for the benefit of that minor. To do this, you should write your own name and address in Box 1 and put the initials of the minor in the "A/C Designation" section. If you make an application for a child in this way, you may also apply separately for your own benefit. If you are applying for your own benefit please leave the "A/C Designation" section blank. If you are applying on behalf of a partnership, firm, trust, association or other unincorporated organisation, write your name in Box 1, put the initial letters of the organisation's name in the "A/C Designation" section and write the name of the organisation in the first line of the address. If a corporation is applying, the full name of the corporation must be entered as the surname in Box 1.

2 **Put in Box 2 (in pounds sterling) the total amount that you wish to invest in Ordinary Shares.**

You may only apply to invest for one of the total amounts shown in the table below. Applications to invest any other amount may be rejected. **The minimum amount for which you can apply to invest is £1,000.**

AMOUNT IN £ STERLING	
£1,000	£6,000
£2,000	£7,000
£3,000	£8,000
£4,000	£9,000
£5,000	£10,000

Applications to invest an amount above £10,000 must be in the following denominations:

Amounts of	in multiples of
£10,000 to £50,000	£5,000
£50,000 to £100,000	£10,000
over £100,000	£25,000

3 **Sign and date the Application Form in Box 3.**

If an adult is applying for the benefit of someone under the age of 18 (under 20 in Jersey) the adult, rather than the minor, must sign the Application Form. The Application Form may be signed by someone else on your behalf who is duly authorised to do so. In this case, the original of the relevant power of attorney (or a copy certified by a solicitor) must be enclosed. Applications made by corporations, whether on their own behalf or on behalf of other persons, must be signed by a duly authorised official, whose representative capacity must be stated.

4 **Leave Box 4 blank unless you wish to make a tender election.**

In order to make a tender election, you must specify in Box 4 the maximum price per Ordinary Share that you wish to pay. Any maximum price specified in Box 4 must be a multiple of 5p (a "Permitted Price"). If you specify any price which is not a multiple of 5p, then you will be deemed to have specified the Permitted Price which is both nearest to and lower than that price. In the event that you complete Box 4 and the Offer Price is set at a level above the Permitted Price which you have specified (or are deemed to have specified), you will not be allocated any Ordinary Shares. In the event that the Offer Price is set at a level on or below the Permitted Price you have specified (or are deemed to have specified), you will pay the Offer Price for the Ordinary Shares which are allocated to you.

5 **Pin a single cheque or banker's draft to your completed Application Form. Your cheque or banker's draft must be payable to "Lloyds Bank Plc – A/C Somerfield Offer" for the amount payable on application as inserted in Box 2 and should be crossed "A/C Payee". No receipt will be issued.**

You may pay for the Ordinary Shares by personal cheque drawn on your bank or building society account. Alternatively, you may use a cheque or banker's draft from your bank or building society (or a personal cheque drawn by someone else) but you must write your full name and address on the back. In each case the cheque must be drawn in sterling and bear a UK bank sort code number in the top right hand corner. The cheque should not be post-dated.

Any monies returned will be sent by cheque crossed "A/C Payee" payable to the person named in Box 1.

Under the provisions of the Money Laundering Regulations 1993 you may be required to produce satisfactory evidence of your identity or the identity of any person on whose behalf you are applying. Failure to do so, if required, may result in rejection of your application or a delay in the issue of a share certificate (and/or a return money cheque) to you (or such person) and/or in your (or such person's) ability to obtain the benefits of ownership of the Ordinary Shares.

If you apply for Ordinary Shares worth more than £11,000 using a cheque or banker's draft drawn on an account which is not in your name, please ask the bank or building society on which it is drawn to enter your name and address on the back and add its stamp.

6 **You may apply to hold the Ordinary Shares jointly with up to three other persons aged 18 or over (20 or over in Jersey). As joint applicants, they should complete and sign in Box 6. Before signing, they should read carefully the declaration in Box 3.**

If you post your Application Form, you are recommended to use first class post and allow at least two working days for delivery.
Copies of Application Forms are not acceptable. Multiple or suspected multiple applications may be rejected in their entirety.

PUBLIC APPLICATION FORM

In applying for Ordinary Shares you will be treated as applying on the basis of the information contained in the Prospectus and on the terms and conditions contained therein. Before making any application you are recommended to consult an independent financial adviser authorised under the FSA.

1 Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

Title	Forenames (in full)
Surname	A/C Designation (if any)
Address	
Postcode	Daytime telephone number

2 I/We offer to invest a total amount of: in Ordinary Shares at the Offer Price. £ **PUT THE AMOUNT YOU WISH TO INVEST HERE**

3 I/We make this application for Ordinary Shares in the Retail Offer on and subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Retail Offer set out in the Prospectus relating to Somerfield plc dated 11 July 1996.
I/We declare that, to my/our knowledge and belief, this is the only application made for my/our benefit (or that of any person on whose behalf I am/we are applying) other than any application being made under the arrangements for Eligible Employees of Somerfield plc.

Signature	Date 1996

SIGN AND DATE HERE

4 I/We elect to tender for Ordinary Shares at a price per Ordinary Share of no greater than p **LEAVE THIS BOX BLANK UNLESS YOU WISH TO MAKE THE TENDER ELECTION. SEE 4 OF THE GUIDE.**

In the event that you elect to complete Box 4 and the Offer Price is set at a level above the Permitted Price you have specified (or are deemed to have specified) in your tender election, you will not be allocated any Ordinary Shares in the Retail Offer.

5 Attach your cheque or banker's draft here with a pin. It should be for the exact amount in Box 2, payable to "Lloyds Bank Plc—A/C Somerfield Offer" and crossed "A/C Payee". ATTACH ONE CHEQUE OR BANKER'S DRAFT ONLY.

6 JOINT APPLICANTS
The first applicant (as shown in Box 1) should complete the boxes above. Other persons applying to hold Ordinary Shares jointly with the first applicant named in Box 1 should complete and sign the box below.

I/We join in this application and give the declaration set out in Box 3.

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

JOINT APPLICANTS MUST SIGN HERE

Title	Forename(s) in full	Surname	Signature

Delivery of Application Form

This completed Application Form together with a cheque or banker's draft for the exact amount payable should either be posted or be delivered by hand to Lloyds Bank Plc, Lloyds Bank Registrars, Antholin House, 71 Queen Street, London EC4N 1SL so as to be received not later than 12 noon on Wednesday, 24 July 1996

The price range for the Offer (including the Retail Offer) set out in the Prospectus and Mini Prospectus relating to Somerfield plc dated 11 July 1996 is indicative only and the Offer Price may be set outside this range.

Completed Application Forms and payments must be received by Lloyds Bank Plc, Lloyds Bank Registrars, Antholin House, 71 Queen Street, London EC4N 1SL not later than 12.00 noon on Wednesday, 24 July 1996.

Kleinwort Benson Limited, which is regulated by The Securities and Futures Authority Limited, is acting solely for Somerfield plc and Somerfield Holdings Limited and no-one else in relation to the Offer and will not be responsible to anyone other than Somerfield plc and Somerfield Holdings Limited for providing the protections afforded to customers of Kleinwort Benson Limited or for providing advice in relation to the Offer.
The Ordinary Shares of 10 pence each in the capital of Somerfield plc have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or qualified for sale under the laws of any state of the United States of America, or the laws of Canada, Japan or Australia. No persons receiving a copy of this offer notice and Application Form in any territory other than the United Kingdom may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him nor should he in any event use such Application Form unless, in the relevant territory, such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to him or such Application Form could lawfully be used without contravention of any registration or other legal requirements. It is the responsibility of any person outside the United Kingdom wishing to make an application in the Offer to satisfy himself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory in connection therewith, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents, observing any other formalities requiring to be observed in such territory and paying any issue, transfer or other taxes required to be paid in such territory.

20 July 1996

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Shares regain composure to close above 3,700

Railtrack shares rose 1p on its debut in the FT-SE 100

THE London stock market ended a volatile week on a steady note with investors taking their lead from those soothing comments on the US economy by Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, and an 87-point leap overnight in the Dow Jones average.

However, share prices were unable to hold on to their best levels and by the close had seen their earlier gains halved. This was reflected in the FT-SE 100 index, which managed to consolidate its position above the 3,700 level with a rise of 17.1 points at 3,710.5, having been 33.5 higher earlier in the day. Yesterday's performance enabled the index to reduce its deficit on the week to just *17.8 points*.

With Wall Street tumbling another 55 points in early trading ahead of the weekend, both brokers and investors remain worried about *short-term prospects*.

Many fund managers have liquidated their positions and moved into cash, enabling them to remain flexible during further periods of volatility. It was another day of low turnover, with just 607 million shares changing hands.

Among leading shares, it was the first day of trading for **Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance** since completion of the £5.4 billion merger between Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance. The shares started *life at 365p and ended the* session at 370½p.

Railtrack made its debut as a constituent of the FT-SE 100 index after its privatisation last month. It fought off opposition from the likes of **Lucas Industries**, up 5p at 221p, **Premier Farnell**, up 7p at 630p, **Compass**, 7p higher at *573p*, **Securicor**, 1p *firmer* at 260p, and **Hays**, unchanged at 445p. Railtrack is expected to benefit from the move, attracting the additional support of the index tracking funds. The price finished 1p lighter at 213p.

Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine group, rose 2½p to 227p after announcing plans to shed its loss-making large power generating division. The group is to make total provisions of £248 million relating to the disposal.

British Energy rallied to *almost match the price* at which the shares were floated earlier this week. They finished 3½p dearer at 99½p as almost 12 million were traded.

British Energy was offered to the public in its partly paid *form at 100p and became the* first privatisation to end the first day at a discount.

Innovations, the mail order group, enjoyed an early mark-up on the back of an agreed £45 *million bid from Burton*, the high street stores group. By the close it was sporting a rise of 101p at 313p. Burton is offering 2.15 of its own shares for every Innovations share, valuing the deal at 310p a share. **Burton**, which says the acquisition will speed up its *move into home shopping*, rose 6¾p to 151½p as brokers began upgrading their profit *numbers after the group gave* a bullish trading update. Sales in the 19 weeks to July rose 8.5 per cent, accompanied by a 2.1 per cent improvement in gross margins. Brokers like UBS, which had been looking for a final figure from the group of £135 million, have now upped *the figure by £10 million to* £145 million.

Greycoat, the property developer, stood out with a rise of 6½p at 139½p after James Capel, the broker, waded into the *market-place* and picked up 3.5 million shares at 140p for cancellation. Greycoat has shareholder approval to buy back up to 5 per cent of the issued share capital. By the close 7.28 million shares had changed hands.

Lloyds Chemists rose 6p to 481p after the Government cleared the way for **UniChem** the pharmaceutical distributor, and Gehe, the German group, to relaunch their bids for the company, subject to certain conditions. UniChem would have to sell six wholesale units and Gehe has also given undertakings to make *disposals. When the bid was* referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission earlier this year Gehe had an offer of 500p a share on the table, valuing the business at £650 million. This topped a *previous offer from UniChem*, down 4p at 263p. Lloyds has issued a profits warning.

Southern Water responded with a rise of 28p to £10.54 on the news that Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, *will not refer the bid from* Scottish Power to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Scottish has agreed to address any regulatory concerns that may arise.

Its offer of £10.50 a share *valued Southern at £1.65 billion* and topped a similar offer from **Southern Electric**, 3p dearer at 658p. **Scottish Power** firmed 1p to 315p.

News of an agreed £80 million bid from the US group *Reltec lifted* **Rainford**, the electrical equipment group, 20p to 335p,. Terms of the all-cash deal value Rainford at 335p a share.

After the terms had been announced Reltec dived into the market-place, picking up a total of 1.1 million shares, or almost 5 per cent of the equity. Combined with acceptances of 47.2 per cent already given by Rainford this means it now speaks for 51.8 per cent of the company.

Excalibur slipped 1p to 18p after the group plunged into *the red with losses of £5.7* million against a surplus last time of £2.1 million.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** An uninspiring performance left prices nursing small losses on the day as the bond market *limped towards* the end of a difficult week.

Much of the session saw London tracking US treasury bonds and German bunds without obtaining any inspiration.

In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt finished £⅛ lower at £$106\frac{13}{16}$ *in thin trading that saw 20,000* contracts completed.

Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2015 lost £$\frac{13}{32}$ at £$98\frac{5}{32}$, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £$\frac{1}{32}$ easier at £$103\frac{3}{16}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares on Wall Street dipped in what analysts called consolidation after Thursday's rally. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 27.37 points lower at 5,436.81.

NatWest Securities, the broker, says that BAA, up 5p at 500p, did well out of this week's CAA review relating to airport charges. After taking into account the scope for traffic growth, the economy and productivity gains, profit upgrades are expected. NatWest says that the shares look cheap and could touch 550p.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
British Biotech	£21.53	+95p	*Rights issue rump oversubscribed*
Viewinn	385p	-70p	Threat of competition
Goldsborough	136p	-26p	Westminster bid may fail
Iceland	111p	-38p	Profit warning
Cantab Pharmaceutical	665p	+45p	SmithKline Beecham link-up
Telemetrix	64p	-11p	Profit warning
Motor World	280p	+65p	Agreed bid from Finelist
Innovations	313p	+128p	Agreed £45 million bid from Burton
Hunting	134p	-43p	Profit warning after write-offs

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	5436.81 (-27.37)
S&P Composite	638.81 (-4.75)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	21476.39 (-90.13)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	10845.30 (+134.06)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	534.05 (+4.65)

Sydney:

AO	2157.60 (+38.00)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2520.19 (+13.97)

Singapore:

Straits	2202.84 (+11.89)

Brussels:

General	9305.44 (+63.30)

Paris:

CAC-40	1992.83 (-14.43)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	773.30 (+2.70)

London:

FT 30	*2717.8 (+17.4)*
FT 100	3710.5 (+17.1)
FT-SE Mid 250	4250.0 (+24.8)
FT-SE-A 350	1860.8 (+9.0)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1638.47 (+7.14)
FT A All-Share	1841.45 (+9.04)
FT Non Financials	1953.36 (+9.05)
FT Fixed Interest	112.91 (+0.39)
FT Govt Secs	92.88 (-0.02)
Bargains	*27448*
SEAQ Volume	607.5m
USM (Datastrm)	206.40 (+1.86)
US$	1.5474 (+0.0024)
German Mark	2.3038 (-0.0018)
Exchange Index	84.7 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
E:ECU	1.2095
£:SDR	1.0619
RPI	*153.0 Jun (2.1%) Jan 1987=100*
RPIX	152.6 Jun (2.8%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Alizyme	51	- 2
BATM Advd Cms	129	+ 2
Belhaven Brewery	200	...
British Energy (100)	99½	+ 3½
Central Mtr Auct (34)	92	...
Circle Comms	175	...
Concurrent Techn	19	...
Drings of Bath	4	...
Electronic Retailing	148	...
Fayrewood	53	+ 5
Hat Pin	62	- 1
Independent Brit Hl	78	...
Life Numbers	15	+ 1
Life Numbers Wts	5	+ 1
Lotteryking	4¼	+ ¼
Lotteryking Warrants	1½	...
NECA	18	...
Pace Micro Tec (172)	179	+ 1
Pordum Foods	3¼	...
Pordum Foods Wts	1¼	...
Sun Life & Provincia	221½	+ ½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cowie n/p (355)	17	- 3
Dixon Mtrs n/p (220)	41	...
Greene Kng n/p (545)	*51*	*+ 8*
Kays Food n/p (2)	½	...
Sema Gp n/p (595)	124	+ 19
Syndct Cap n/p (110)	2	...
Tinsley Rbr n/p (130)	1½	+ ¼
TransTec n/p (103)	11	- 2
Tullow Oil n/p (80)	9½	...
Vardy n/p (300)	8	- 1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Filtronic Com	273p (+23p)
Micro Focus	695p (+42p)
CMG	625p (+29p)
Broken Hill	856p (+35p)
Mitel	404p (+16p)
Chiroscience	354p (+14p)
Cable Wireless	427p (+16p)
Sage Group	448p (+13p)

FALLS:

Treatt	278p (-11p)
Racal Elect	284p (-11p)
Thorpe FW	173p (-36p)
Telspec	420p (-8p)

Closing Prices Page 39

TEMPUS

Cutting the parson's nose

ROLLS-ROYCE is finally getting rid of the old banger. The aero-engines group paid £304 *million for Northern Engineering Industries* at a time when Rolls was desperate to acquire a stream of profits that would keep it going during an aerospace downturn. Bits of NEI are making money; the *Rolls industrial* division made £52 million last year from a range of extraneous businesses, including *switchgear* for transformers and substations and materials-handling equipment.

However, Parsons, the large steam-driven generators business, and International Combustion lost £20 million last year. The problem is the perennial headache that has dogged Rolls, of being a company that is big, *but not quite* big enough for all the markets it would like to serve. Parsons could not compete with GEC-Alsthom, ABB and Siemens in an oversupplied industry, in which mere equipment makers have little edge when customers want project management on a grand scale.

Rolls is right to shed Parsons, but the total write-off of £248 million will come close to the price originally paid for NEI. More important is the cash drain of £20 million a year, a sum that Rolls could ill afford to fritter away, given the investment demands of aerospace.

Rolls investors have *waited long to see the* investment in the Trent jet engine pay off. Recent airline contracts have raised hopes, but *there is* concern that Rolls's margins are not as solid as one might hope. In the circumstances, the £70 million cost of shutting Parsons — the likely outcome — is a blow to those waiting patiently for profits. *Less patience from Rolls* might have left investors better off.

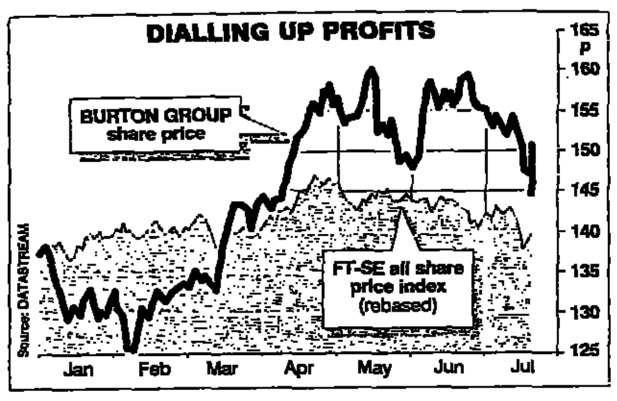
Burton Group

FASHION retailing is becoming a winner-takes-all game, and fortunately for Burton there are good reasons to back its hand. The sales picture has improved since May, when sales were up 5.7 per cent and gross margins were ahead by 1.8 per cent. *Yesterday's trading figures* showed an 8.5 per cent sales gain with margins up 2.1 per cent.

Equally important is Bur*ton's leap into a new growth* market with Innovations. The attraction of direct selling to customers through catalogues has been amply demonstrated by Next. The latter uses its Directory busi*ness effectively to test market* new ranges at low cost. With its six high street chains — including Top Shop, Dorothy Perkins, Evans and Principles — Burton has enough brands to fill catalogues, and around five million names already on its list from its store card programme.

Innovations brings a further five million customers *from its catalogues, together* with the infrastructure and mail order knowhow that should kick-start Burton into the home shopping market.

Burton is not looking particularly cheap at 23 times current-year earnings but this retail recovery is a selective affair and investors need to trim their portfolios of dross. At least one giant of the home shopping sector will be disappointed by Burton's acquisition of Innovations, which is at least one good reason to switch to Burton.



Rainford

NEWS of a premium pay-off for Rainford investors had the effect of a bee sting on the share price of Vero, another manufacturer of cabinets for telecommunications equipment. Vero's share price *gained 9p to 220p as the* fortunate Rainford shareholders pocketed a 65p gain on their investment of 270p in April last year.

Unfortunately, the story has been less glorious for Vero investors, and there are still doubts that the company will acquire the growth cachet of *its cousin. Floated at 220p* seven months after Rainford, Vero's share price quickly gained 25 per cent only to fall back sharply below the issue price over worries about growth prospects.

Vero has not slipped up yet, but it is a different animal to Rainford. The latter has a niche product: specialist cabinets for mobile phone sub-stations. These are cleverly designed to maintain a constant temperature environment, and Rainford's growth was closely linked to its relationship with Nokia, the Finnish mobile phone company.

Vero makes cabinets for older generation analogue switching equipment as well *as racks and power supplies* for computer network systems. It has a more broadly based and less risky business than Rainford, but its lack of a digital cabinet makes it unable to piggyback on the growth of Ericsson and Nokia. The company is developing a digital product. *Should it succeed, it could* quickly become a tempting morsel for a larger supplier of widgets to the telecoms industry. Until then, there is little reason to chase the shares.

Greycoat

THE property sector is blighted with companies desperate to expand their balance sheets at almost any cost, so it is cheering to see a management that has the courage to shrink the asset base, when appropriate.

Greycoat is not the first property company to buy back its shares: Raglan launched a share buyback programme earlier this year. But there is a curious reluc*tance in the real estate frater*nity to use share buybacks as a means of gearing the balance sheet, while at the same time returning cash to shareholders.

Part of the problem is tax: *share buybacks are classified* as distributions and can therefore be liable to ACT. Greycoat, which boosted its net asset value by 1p after yesterday's buy-in, had the advantage of tax losses to shelter its programme. Nevertheless, some of the larger property companies, such as Slough *Estates and Land Securities*, might consider such a move. There is no glory in a big balance sheet if the assets are showing nil growth.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Jul	1000-985	Sep	1062-1060
Sep	1013-1012	Dec	1076-1074
Dec	1017-1016	Mar	1086-1084
Mar	1029-1028	May	1093-1091
May	1040-1039		
Jul	1050-1049		Volume: 2746

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jul	1577-1575	Mar	1442-1440
Sep	1605-1603	May	1440-1435
Nov	1540-1537	Jul	1438-1432
Jan	*1490-1485*		*Volume: 7674*

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	334.2-32.6
Spot: 365.0		Aug	332.7-29.0
Oct	346.5-45.5	Oct	320.0-17.5
Dec	340.5-39.5	Dec	322.0-15.5
Mar	336.0-36.0		Volume: 2148

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on July 18

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	*112.65*	75.24	102.77
(+/-)	-8.64	-11.86	+0.36
Eng/Wales:	112.62	112.47	101.39
(+/-)	-8.65	+0.21	-0.48
(%)	+12.0	-5.0	-5.0
Scotland:	114.76	107.79	108.33
(+/-)	-6.33	-2.72	+3.73
(%)	+74.0	+50.0	-8.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	19.70	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Sep)	19.40	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Oct)	19.00	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	21.00	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	20.50	-0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	209 (n/c)	211 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	185 (+1)	186 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	87 (-2)	89 (-1)
Naphtha	188 (+1)	190 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Aug	179.00-79.25	Nov	172.50-73.00
Sep	175.25-75.50	Dec	171.50-71.75
Oct	173.75-74.00		Vol. 14273

BRENT (6.00pm)

Sep	19.35-19.38	Dec	18.26-18.30
Oct	18.93-18.96	Jan	n/a
Nov	18.60-18.63		Vol: 21241

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Sep	110.15	*Sep*	102.60
Nov	112.65	Nov	105.25
Jan	114.70	Jan	107.20
Mar	116.70	Mar	109.25
May	118.65	May	111.00
	Volume: 111		Volume: 157

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	85.0
Mar	—	110.0
Apr	140.0	135.8
		Volume: 78

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Aug 90.75-91.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jul 96	1127	1115	1127
Aug 96	1144	1119	1140
Sep 96	1175	1160	1162
Oct 96	1265	1250	1260

Vol: 374 lots Open interest: 4533

Index 1106 same

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) *Rudolf Wolff*

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1995.0-2000.0	1892.0-1893.0	1193150
Lead ($/tonne)	782.00-783.00	792.50-793.00	190825
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	990.00-991.00	1019.0-1019.0	293475
Tin ($/tonne)	6215.0-6220.0	6260.0-6265.0	19500
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1451.0-1452.0	*1487.5-1490.0*	808075
Nickel ($/tonne)	7041.0-7050.0	7160.0-7165.0	57252

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	420	29½	35½	39	8½	17	18½
(*434½)	460	11	16	20	29	40	41½
ASDA	110	8½	11	13	3½	5½	7
(*115½)	120	3½	6½	8½	9	11	12
Boots	550	43	49½	59½	7	14	17
(*578)	600	14½	23	33	30	37	41
Br Airways	500	37	46	56½	9	15½	19
(*520)	550	13½	22½	32	34	40	44½
BP	550	46	54	61	6½	12½	18
(*587½)	600	16½	26	33½	27	35½	41
Br Steel	160	13½	16½	19	4	7½	9
(*167½)	180	4	7	10	14½	18½	20
C & W	420	24½	35	43	12½	21½	24½
(*424½)	460	9½	18	25	38	44½	47
CU	550	36½	48½	54½	12	19	28
(*577½)	600	11½	26½	30	40½	46	56
ICI	750	51½	67½	78	14	20½	31
(*792)	800	22½	39½	50	36	43	55
Land Sec	600	30½	38	46½	10	17	19½
(*613)	650	8½	14½	22	39	44	45½
M & S	460	35	42½	51	6	11	13½
(*484)	500	11½	20	28½	24	28½	31½
Nat West	600	39½	55	61½	14½	23	33½
(*628)	650	16	31	36½	41½	49	60½
Safeway plc	300	36½	42	47	3½	8	10½
(*329½)	330	16½	24	29½	13½	19½	22½
Sainsbury	360	24½	30½	37½	6	12	14
(*373½)	390	9	16	22½	21	27½	29
Shell	900	50½	59	73	13	19½	29½
(*933½)	950	23½	32	44½	37½	44	53½
Smkl Bch	638	58½	—	—	8	—	—
(*683½)	667	29	—	—	27	—	—
Storehse	280	16	—	—	8	—	—
(*285)	300	7	—	—	19	—	—
Trafalgar	50	1	—	—	0½	—	—
(*50)	60	0	—	—	10	—	—
Zeneca	1350	87½	113½	135	34½	51½	68½
(*1395½)	1400	60	86½	107	58	74½	90½
Series		Aug	Nov	Jan	Aug	Nov	Jan
BAT Ind	460	35	41	49	4½	13	16
(*493)	500	8	19½	27½	23	31	35
Vodafone	220	12	20	23½	4½	9	12
(*226½)	240	3	11	13½	15½	20	23
Series		Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Grnd Met	420	14½	27½	34	7½	13½	22½
(*432)	460	1½	10½	17	35½	38	46½
Ladbroke	180	9½	15	20	4½	10½	13½
(*184)	200	2	7	12	17½	22	25½
Utd Bisc	220	8½	15½	20½	6	11	14½
(*222)	240	1½	7½	12½	19	24	26½

Series		Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	500	21½	29½	37½	17	23½	26
(*500)	550	4½	11	17	51	55	56½
Thames W	550	32½	41½	51	12	23½	28
(*562½)	600	11½	19½	28½	41	52	56
Series		Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
BTR	220	18	21½	25	1	5½	7
(*236)	240	5	10½	14½	7½	15	16½
Br Aero	900	52½	73½	94	6	21	29½
(*942)	950	20½	45	66	23½	42½	51½
Br Telecm	330	30	31½	34½	2½	8½	14½
(*359)	360	6	13	19	17	22	30
Cadbury	460	38	46	57	1½	9	13½
(*494)	500	10	22½	34	13½	26	30½
Guinness	460	19½	28½	39½	5	14	18
(*472½)	500	2½	10½	20½	28½	36½	38½
GEC	360	15½	26½	32	5	10	13
(*370½)	390	3	11½	17½	21½	25½	28½
Hanson	160	6½	9½	13	2½	8	11½
(*162½)	180	0½	3½	5	17½	21½	24½
LASMO	*180*	8½	14	18½	3½	7	8½
(*184)	200	1	5½	9½	16½	19½	19½
Lucas	220	6½	14	18½	10	15	17
(*221)	240	1½	7½	10½	25½	28½	29½
Pilkingtn	191	8	—	—	4	—	—
(*193½)	210	1½	—	—	17	—	—
Prudential	420	17½	26½	30½	6	15½	20½
(*429½)	460	2½	11	19	31½	39½	43½
Redland	420	16	28	35	8½	19½	23½
(*426)	460	2½	11½	19	35	44	47
R-Royce	220	12	19	24	3½	9½	12
*(*227)*	*240*	*3*	*10*	*15*	14½	20½	23
Tesco	280	11	17	24½	5½	12½	16
(*283)	300	3	8½	15½	18	24	27½
Williams	330	9½	16	—	5½	13½	—
(*333)	360	0½	4½	—	27	34	—

FT-SE INDEX (*3709½)

	3600	3650	3700	3750	3800	3850
Calls						
Jul	109½	59½	9½	0	0	0
Aug	119½	82	51	27½	12½	5
Sep	144½	110½	80	56	36½	21
Oct	163	131	100½	76½	54	38½
Dec	203½	—	142	—	90	—
Puts						
Jul	0	0	0	44	94	144
Aug	17½	31	50	77½	113	155
Sep	38½	54	72½	98	130	165
Oct	51½	69½	88½	114½	142½	177
Dec	80½	—	119½	—	171½	—

Series		Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Calls Apr	Puts Sep	Puts Dec	Puts Apr
Abby Nat	550	25½	40½	50½	15½	23	36½
(*564)	600	7	18½	27	47½	52	65
Amstrad	180	18	23	—	6	8	—
(*191½)	200	7½	15	—	15½	18	—
Barclays	800	23	42	56½	27	35½	51½
(*803½)	850	7	21½	34½	62	67	81½
Blue Circ	360	15½	24½	29	12	17½	19
(*364½)	390	4	12	16	32	35½	37
Br Gas	180	12½	16½	19	4½	9	12
(*186)	200	4	7	11	16	21½	24
Dixons	500	22½	36	45½	15½	24	30
(*510½)	550	5	15	24	49½	54½	59
Forte	343	25½	—	—	0	—	—
(*367)	373	5	—	—	8½	—	—
Tarmac	100	7	10	12½	4	7½	8½
(*103)	110	2½	6	8	9½	13	14
Hillsdwn	160	12½	16	19½	2½	5½	6½
(*169½)	180	2½	6	9	12	16	17
Lonrho	160	12½	17	20	2½	5½	7
(*170½)	180	3	6½	10	13	15½	17
Sears	90	9	10½	—	1	2½	—
(*97)	100	3	5	—	5	7	—
Thorn	1700	69½	103½	—	45½	65½	—
(*1775)	1800	25	59	—	108½	123	—
Tomkins	260	8½	13½	18	13	15½	19
(*260½)	280	2½	7	10½	29	30	32
Lloyds TSB	330	14½	24½	30½	10½	19½	23
(*339)	360	3	11½	17	30	33½	40½
Series		Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Glaxo W	850	58	78	93½	21	30½	43½
(*892½)	900	30½	51½	67	44½	54½	67½
HSBC	1000	72	97	114	22½	37	52½
(*1047½)	1050	43	70	85½	44	60	75½
Reuter	700	55	72	93½	17	28½	36
(*731)	750	26½	45	57	39½	51	59
Series		Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Royal & Sun	360	18½	27	30½	16½	21½	28
(*370½)	394	9	15½	18½	33½	38	45
Series		Oct	Feb	May	Oct	Feb	May
Kingfishr	600	35½	54	61	17½	27½	35½
(*615)	650	13	30	37	45½	54½	62½
Series		Oct	Dec	Mar	Oct	Dec	Mar
Unilever	1200	71	80	101½	9½	18	27½
(*1245)	1250	37½	48½	70	27	37	41½
Series		Sep	Dec	Apr	Sep	Dec	Apr
Natl Pwr	360	41	49	56½	2½	9	12½
(*395½)	400	14	24	34	15	25	29
Scot Pwr	300	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(*313½)	330	6	14	19	20	33	38½

July 19, 1996 Tot: 49191 Call: 30240 Put: 18951 FT-SE Call: 19691 Put: 10459
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 64208	Sep 96	3705.0	3735.0	3700.0	3708.0	17310
	Dec 96				3728.0	0
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 3491	Sep 96				4249.0	0
	Dec 96					0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 403751	Sep 96	94.29	94.30	94.27	94.27	6846
	Dec 96	94.20	94.21	94.17	94.17	13257
	Mar 97	93.89	93.94	93.88	93.88	6088
Three Mth Euro Yen	Dec 96	98.68	98.68	98.68	98.68	75
	Mar 97				98.39	0
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 975963	Sep 96	96.71	96.73	96.69	96.71	21830
	Dec 96	96.61	96.66	96.59	96.61	35128
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 129416	Sep 96	106-29	107-02	106-22	106-26	20262
	Dec 96	106-01	106-01	106-01	106-01	100
Japanese Govmt Bond	Sep 96	118.35	118.37	118.26	118.30	1727
	Dec 96	117.31	117.31	117.29	117.23	135
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 217243	Sep 96	96.96	97.05	96.63	96.77	119892
	Dec 96	95.95	95.87	95.74	95.85	663
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 24416	Sep 96	95.61	95.64	95.61	95.64	1160
	Dec 96	95.58	95.60	95.57	95.60	980
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 70717	Sep 96	97.39	97.46	97.32	97.36	4775
	Dec 96	97.29	97.36	97.22	97.25	5041
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 66232	Sep 96	116.55	117.30	116.43	116.62	33205
	Dec 96				115.91	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¾ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¾ Low $5\frac{11}{16}$ Week fixed: 5¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy 2 mth 5½; 3 mth $5\frac{11}{32}$. Sell: 2 mth $5\frac{11}{32}$; 3 mth: $5\frac{11}{32}$.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	$5\frac{11}{16}$-5⅝	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	$5\frac{25}{32}$-$5\frac{23}{32}$	$5\frac{29}{32}$-$5\frac{27}{32}$	
Sterling Money Rates:	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	5⅞-$5\frac{13}{16}$	$6\frac{1}{16}$-$5\frac{15}{16}$
Interbank:	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	5⅞-$5\frac{11}{16}$	5⅞-$5\frac{13}{16}$	$6\frac{1}{16}$-$5\frac{15}{16}$
Overnight: open 5¾, close 5½.					
Local Authority Deps:	$5\frac{11}{16}$	n/a	$5\frac{13}{16}$	$5\frac{15}{16}$	6⅛
Sterling CDs:	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	$5\frac{25}{32}$-$5\frac{23}{32}$	$5\frac{13}{16}$-5¾	$5\frac{15}{16}$-5⅞	6⅛-6
Dollar CDs:	5.35	n/a	5.54	5.71	6.00
Building Society CDs:	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	5¾-$5\frac{11}{16}$	5⅞-$5\frac{13}{16}$	5⅞-$5\frac{15}{16}$	$6\frac{1}{16}$-$5\frac{15}{16}$

TREASURY BILLS: Applicrs: £3,552m allotted: £600m; Bids: £98.62% received: 22%; Last week: £98.63% received: 52%; Avge rate: £5.4763% last wk £5.4913%; Next week: £600m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅛-4⅞	$5\frac{5}{16}$-$5\frac{3}{16}$	5½-5⅜	5¾-5⅝	5-4
Deutschemark:	$3\frac{5}{16}$-$3\frac{3}{16}$	$3\frac{5}{16}$-3¼	3⅜-3¼	3½-3⅜	3½-2½
French Franc:	3⅝-3½	$3\frac{13}{16}$-3⅝	3⅞-3¾	$3\frac{15}{16}$-$3\frac{13}{16}$	4-3
Swiss Franc:	$2\frac{3}{16}$-$2\frac{1}{16}$	2⅜-2¼	2½-2⅜	2½-2⅜	3-2
Yen:	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	⅝-½	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $384.30-384.60 Close: $384.90-385.40 High: $385.40-385.90
Low: $383.30-383.60 AM: $384.35 PM: $384.50

Krugerrand: $384.00-387.00 (£248.50-250.50)

Platinum: $393.75 (£254.85) Silver: $5.02 (£3.245) Palladium: $133.00 (£86.10)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for July 19	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5816-2.5895	2.5816-2.5837	½-⅜pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Brussels	47.413-47.590	47.413-47.453	⅜-¼pr	⅜-¼pr
Copenhagen	8.8775-8.9020	8.8775-8.8961	1¼-1⅛pr	4¼-3¾pr
Dublin	0.9627-0.9677	0.9627-0.9643	4-1pr	8-3pr
Frankfurt	2.3019-2.3095	2.3019-2.3045	½-⅜pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Lisbon	236.66-237.58	236.66-236.98	⅛-⅛ds	¾-1¼ds
Madrid	194.24-194.86	*194.24-194.47*	*21-31ds*	68-85ds
Milan	2340.8-2348.0	2340.8-2343.3	55-70ds	15-18ds
Montreal	2.1076-2.1157	2.1140-2.1157	0.22-0.17pr	0.41-0.33pr
New York	1.5444-1.5477	1.5470-1.5477	0.05-0.03pr	0.05-0.02pr
Oslo	9.8966-9.9230	9.8966-9.9119	1⅛-⅞pr	2⅞-1⅝pr
Paris	7.7987-7.8210	7.7987-7.8038	*1⅛-1⅛pr*	*3⅛-3⅛pr*
Stockholm	10.202-10.253	10.220-10.240	⅜-⅛pr	⅛-¼pr
Tokyo	167.05-167.57	167.39-167.57	¾-½pr	2¼-2⅛ds
Vienna	16.198-16.248	16.198-16.218	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	1.8812-1.8888	1.8812-1.8836	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2627-1.2635
Austria	10.49-10.50
Belgium (Com)	30.72-30.73
Canada	1.3665-1.3675
Denmark	5.7490-5.7520
France	5.0523-5.0548
Germany	1.4912-1.4919
Hong Kong	7.7368-7.7378
Ireland	1.6030-1.6050
Italy	1514.60-1516.10
Japan	108.23-108.33
Malaysia	2.4882-2.4892
Netherlands	1.6722-1.6732
Norway	6.4083-6.4158
Portugal	153.30-153.40
Singapore	1.4170-1.4180
Spain	125.85-125.94
Sweden	6.6149-6.6249
Switzerland	1.2199-1.2204

OTHER STERLING

*Argentina peso**	*1.5468-1.5494*
Australia dollar	1.9515-1.9540
Bahrain dinar	0.5760-0.5880
Brazil real*	1.5545-1.5587
China yuan	n/a
Cyprus pound	0.7040-0.7140
Finland markka	6.9475-7.0635
Greece drachma	360.50-367.50
Hong Kong dollar	11.9503-11.9595
India rupee	54.56-55.52
Indonesia rupiah	3563.00-3631.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4575-0.4675
Malaysia ringgit	3.8433-3.8473
New Zealand dollar	2.2282-2.2328
Pakistan rupee	54.42 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5575-5.6000
Singapore dollar	2.1900-2.1925
S Africa rand (com)	6.7270-6.8290
U A E dirham	5.6075-5.7315

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	945	Marks Spr	2,700
ASDA Gp	5,900	*NatWst Bk*	4,100
Abbey Ntl	1,100	Nat Grid	712
Allied Dom	2,400	Nat Power	4,500
Argos	1,900	Next	551
AB Foods	386	Orange	1,500
BAA	2,400	*P & O*	1,000
BAT Inds	2,500	Pearson	1,100
BOC	316	Pilkington	3,700
BP	4,300	PowerGen	1,700
BSkyB	889	Prudential	1,900
BTR	6,100	RMC	704
BT	6,100	*RTZ*	1,300
Bk of Scot	3,500	Rank Org	2,500
Barclays	7,100	Reckitt Col	527
Bass	1,700	Redland	2,300
Blue Circle	801	Reed Intl	705
Boots	1,700	*Rentokil*	4,800
BAe	653	Reuters	4,800
BA	1,400	Rolls Royce	3,400
Brit Gas	4,500	Royal & Sun	1,800
Brit Steel	945	Royal Bk Sct	2,400
Burmah Cstl	443	Safeway	1,800
Burton	14,100	Sainsbury	4,900
Cable Wire	3,300	Schroders	182
Cadbury	1,200	Scot & New	348
Carlton Cms	1,600	Scot Power	1,700
Cm Union	361	Svrn Trent	432
Cookson	3,100	*Shell Trans*	3,900
Courtaulds	1,300	Siebe	1,300
Dixons	1,600	SmKl Bch	4,200
Enterpr Oil	1,200	Smith Nph	911
GKN	624	Smiths Inds	405
GRE	2,100	Sthern Elec	197
GUS	1,800	Std Chartd	1,900
Gen Acc	1,800	TI Gp	1,100
Gen Elec	3,000	Tate & Lyle	1,500
Glaxo Well	4,500	Tesco	3,900
Granada	1,800	Thames W	590
Grand Met	4,000	Thm EMI	639
Guinness	2,900	Tomkins	3,800
HSBC	2,900	Unilever	487
Hanson	7,800	Utd Utilities	2,200
ICI	2,300	Utd News	3,500
Kingfisher	885	*Vodafone*	3,800
LASMO	5,300	Whitbread	299
Ladbroke	5,300	Wlms Hld	1,300
Land Secs	1,400	Wolseley	1,700
Legal & Gn	1,500	Zeneca	1,500
Lloyds TSB	7,800		

WALL STREET

	Jul 19 midday	Jul 18 close
AMP Inc	38¼	39
AMR Corp	78¾	81½
ASA	39½	39⅝
AT & T	53½	54
Abbott Labs	44¾	45½
Advanced Micro	11	11¼
Aetna Life	62¾	62½
Ahmanson (HF)	24½	25
Air Prod & Chem	53¾	54
AirTouch Comm	27¾	27¼
Alberto-Culver B	44	44¾
Albertson's	39½	39½
Alcan Alumnm	29¾	29½
Alco Standard	42½	43½
Allied Signal	55¼	55¼
Alum Co of Am	56	56½
Amax Gold Inc	5½	5½
Amerada Hess	51½	52½
Amer Brands	[illegible]	45
Amer El Power	42½	42½
Amer Express	41½	42½
Amer Genl Corp	34¾	35½
Amer Home Pr	55½	56½
Amer Intl	93½	94¼
Amer Stores	36½	36½
Amer Standard	27½	29¼
Ameritech	56	56½
Amoco	67½	67¾
Anheuser-Busch	72½	72½
Apple Computer	20½	20¾
Archer Daniels	16½	17¼
Armco	4¼	4½
Armstrng Wrld	56½	56½
Asarco	24½	25½
Atl Richfield	118½	118½
Auto Data Pro	38½	39½
Avery Dennison	51½	52
Avon Products	42½	43
Baker Hughes	32½	32½
Baltim Gas & El	26½	26½
Banc One	33½	33½
BankAmerica	75	76½
Bank of NY	49½	49½
Bankers Tr NY	71½	71½
Barnett Banks	59½	60½
Bausch & Lomb	37½	38½
Baxter Intl	44½	45½
Bectn Dicknsn	75½	77½
Bell Atlantic	59½	59½
Bell Industries	17½	18
BellSouth	41½	42
Black & Decker	39½	41½
Block (H&R)	26½	27½
Boeing	87½	88¾
Boise Cascade	32	32½
Bristol Myrs Sq	87½	87½
Browning Ferris	25½	24½
Brunswick	19¼	19
Burlington Nthn	80½	80½
CMS Energy Corp	30½	30½
CNA Financial	*100½*	*101½*
CPC Intl	67½	67½
CSX	47½	47½
Campbell Soup	65½	65½
Can Pacific	21½	21½
Carolina Pwr	35½	35¼
Caterpillar	67	67½
Central & SW	27½	28
Champion Intl	42½	43½
Chase Manhat	68½	69½
Chevron Corp	58½	58½
Chrysler	29	29½
Chubb Corp	45½	46
Cigna Corp	110	111½
Citicorp	81½	81½
Clorox	86½	87½
Coastal Corp	41½	41½
Coca Cola	47½	47½
Colgate-Palmolive	81½	81½
Columbia Gas	52½	52½
ColumbiaHCA	41½	41½
Compaq Comp	47½	48½
Comp Ass Intl	47½	49
ConAgra	42½	43
Conrail	66½	66½
Cons Edison	27½	27½
Cons Nat Gas	52½	52½
Cooper Inds	36½	37½
Corestates	39½	39
Corning Inc	36½	36½
Crown Cork	43	44
Dana Corp	29½	29½
Dayton Hudson	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deere	36½	36½
Delta Air Lines	72½	74½
Deluxe Corp	34½	34½
Digital Equip	34½	34½
Dillard Dept St	33½	33½
Disney (Walt)	57½	57½
Dominion Res	37½	37½
Donnelley (RR)	32½	33½
Dover Corp	43	43½
Dow Chemical	73½	73½
Dow Jones	38½	38½
Dresser	28½	28½
Duke Power	48½	48½
Dun & Bradstreet	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eaton Corp	54½	55
Edison Int	16½	16½
Emerson Elec	82½	83½
Engelhard Corp	21½	21½
Enron Corp	41½	41½
Entergy	25½	25½
Ethyl Corp	9½	9½
Exxon	84½	85½
FMC Corp	64½	64
FPL Group	45½	45½
Federal-Express	77½	79½
Fed Nat Mtge	31½	33½
First Bk Sys	59½	59½
First Union Rlty	6½	6½
Fleet Fnl Grp	39½	40
Fluor Corp	61½	61
Ford Motor	32½	32
GTE Corp	41½	41½
Gannett	*66*	66½
Gap Inc Del	31½	32
Gen Dynamics	61½	61½
Gen Electric	82½	83½
Gen Mills	54½	55½
Gen Motors	49½	49
Gen Reinsurance	150½	151½
Gen Signal	37	38
Genuine Parts	42½	42½
Georgia Pac	74½	74½
Gillette	62½	60½
Glaxo Welle ADR	27	27½
Goodrich (BF)	37	37½
Goodyear Tire	43	43½
Grace (WR)	61½	63½
Grt Atl Pac Tea	20½	21
Great Wstn Fin	22½	22½
Halliburton	57½	56½
Harcourt General	48½	48½
Heinz (HJ)	32½	32½
Hercules	50½	50½
Hershey Foods	72½	73½
Hewlett Packard	43	43½
Hilton Hotels	106	108½
Home Depot	53½	53½
Homestake Mng	16½	16½
Honeywell	51½	52½
Household Intl	71½	72½
Houston Inds	22½	22½
Humana	19½	19½
ITT Corp	59	59½
Illinois Tool	64½	65½
Illinova	26½	26½
INCO	30½	30½
Ingersoll Rand	40½	41½
Inland Steel	17½	17½
Intel Corp	72½	72½
IBM	94½	94½
Intl Flav & Fr	44	44½
Intl Paper	39½	39½
James River Va	25½	25½
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	49½	49½
Kellogg	74½	74½
Kerr-McGee	61½	61½
Kimberly-Clark	75½	75½
Kmart	11½	11½
Knight-Ridder	67½	67½
Lilly (Eli)	59½	58½
Limited Inc	18½	*18½*
Lincoln Nat	42½	42½
Litton	43½	44½
Liz Claiborne	29	29½
Lockheed Martin	[illegible]	[illegible]
Louisiana Pac	21	21½
MCI Comm	23½	23½
Marriott Intl	53½	57½
Marsh & McLnn	96½	97½
Masco Corp	29½	29½
May Dept St	42½	42½
Maytag Corp	19½	19½
McDonalds	46	45½
McDonnell D	46½	47½
McGraw Hill	39½	40½
Mead Corp	53½	53½
Medtronic	51½	51½
Mellon Bk	52½	53½
Melville Corp	38½	39½
Merck Inc	64½	64½
Merrill Lynch	59½	59½
Microsoft	118½	119½
Minnesota Mine	65½	65½
Mobil Corp	112½	112½
Monsanto	29½	29½
Morgan (JP)	84½	84½
Motorola Inc	54½	55½
Natl Semi	14½	14½
Natl Service Ind	36½	36½
NavStar Intl	10	10
NY Times A	29½	30½
Newmont Mng	50½	49½
Niag Mohawk	6½	6½
Nike B	102½	105½
NL Industries	10½	10½
Noram Energy	11	11
Nordstrom	41	41½
Norfolk Sthrn	82	81½
Nthn State Pwr	46½	47½
Norwest Corp	34	34
Oryx Energy Co	15½	15½
Overseas Ship	16½	16½
Owens Corning	40½	41½
PHH Corp	57½	57½
PPG Industries	46½	46½
PNC Bank	29½	29½
PP&L Res	22½	22½
Paccar Inc	45½	46
Pacificorp	20½	20½
Pac Enterprises	29	29½
Pac Gas & Elect	21½	21½
Pac Telesis	33½	33½
Pall Corp	22½	24
Parker Hannifin	35½	35½
Peco Energy	24½	24½
Penney (JC)	50½	51
Pennzoil	49½	50
Pepsico	32½	32½
Pfizer	71½	72½
Pharm & Upjhn	40½	40½
Phelps Dodge	57½	57
Philip Morris	100½	101
Phillips Pet	42½	41½
Pitney Bowes	45½	46½
Polaroid	42½	42½
PriceCostco	20½	20½
Procter & Gmbl	86½	85½
Providian	39	39½
Pub Serv E & G	26½	26½
Quaker Oats	31½	31½
Ralston Purina	59	59½
Raychem Corp	63½	65½
Raytheon	46½	47½
Reebok *Intl*	31½	32½
Reynolds Metals	49½	50
Rockwell Intl	53½	52½
Rohm & Haas	57½	58
Royal Dutch	152	152½
Rubbermaid	28½	28½
SBC Comms	49	48½
Safeco Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
St Paul's Cos	54½	55½
Salomon Inc	40½	40½
Sara Lee Corp	31½	31½
Schering Plough	60	60½
Schlumberger	82½	82
Seagram	32	32½
Sears Roebuck	45½	46½
Shell Trans	68	68½
Sherwin Wlms	44½	45½
Skyline Corp	24½	24½
Snap-On-Tools	44½	44½
Southern Co	22½	22½
Sprint Corp	35½	37½
Stanley Works	30½	30½
Sun Company	22½	[illegible]
Sun Microsys	55½	58½
Suntrust	35½	36½
Supervalu	29½	29½
Sysco Corp	29½	29½
TRW Inc	84½	84½
TCC Inds	2½	2½
Tandem Comp	10½	10½
Tandy Corp	42½	42½
Teledyne	36½	36½
Temple Inland	49½	50
Tenneco	47½	47½
Texaco	85½	86½
Texas Inst	43½	43½
Texas Utilities	42½	42½
Textron	79½	80½
Time Warner	36½	37½
Times-Mirror A	41	41½
Timken	38½	38½
Torchmark	40½	41½
Toys R Us	26½	25½
Transamerica	71½	72½
Travelers	41½	42½
Tribune	67½	68½
Tyco Intl	40	39½
UST Inc	32½	32½
UAL	45½	47½
US Inds	22½	22½
US West Comm	31	30½
USX Marathon	20½	21½
Unicom	25½	25½
Unilever NV	142½	142½
Union Camp	49	49
Union Carbide	36½	36½
Union Pacific	69½	69
Unisys Corp	6	6
USAir Group	15½	16½
USF&G Corp	15½	15½
US Life	30	30½
United Tech	107½	108½
Unocal Corp	32½	32½
VF Corp	55½	56½
WMX Tech	30½	30½
Wal-Mart Stores	23½	24½
Warner-Lambert	54½	[illegible]
Wells Fargo	239½	[illegible]
Westinghouse El	17½	17½
Weyerhaeuser	43½	43½
Whirlpool	49½	50½
Whitman	22½	22½

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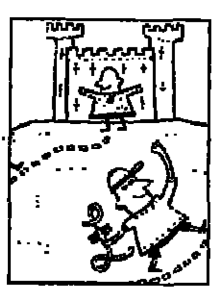
EASYWAY 34

Thorton brings in momentum theory to picking shares

WEEKEND MONEY

ORPHAN ASSETS 35

The background to the life insurers' big giveaway



Karen Zagor explains why UK shares followed the roller coaster week on Wall Street and forecasts the outlook for British Gas

Investors hit by special relationship

If ever there was a week that proved that when Wall Street sneezes, London catches cold, it was this week. UK equities dutifully followed Monday's sell-off on Wall Street by reaching uncomfortable lows on Tuesday, and for most of the week the City wavered between reacting directly to news from the US and waiting to see what our American cousins would do.

For investors watching the value of their portfolios fall, the special relationship in the equity market is disquieting. One leading broker noted that private investors were among those selling shares when the FT-SE 100 plunged more than 85 points on Tuesday, before recovering somewhat to end the day 66 points lower.

Yet Wall Street, which had plummeted 161 points the previous day, was moving for its own, domestic reasons. Justin Urquhart Stewart, a director of Barclays stockbrokers, said: "We knew New York was going to correct, and there may be further corrections in the future. But we hadn't gone up as far as New York so we did not need to react so dramatically. If there's a wave on Wall Street, we should have a ripple. There's no reason for us to have a wave as well."

So why does Wall Street have such a strong impact on markets in the United Kingdom? Philip Isherwood, equities strategist at Kleinwort Benson said: "There is certainly a history of correlation between the United States and British equity markets.

"One reason we've been linked to the United States, through time, is that the US has been the largest stock market, and it is certainly the biggest financial bond market. Also, about half of FT-SE earnings are dollar related. Traditionally, a lot of UK companies, particularly the big, international consumer companies, have done business in the US while others have bought into the US."

Mr Urquhart Stewart agrees. "As far as Britain is concerned, we tend to face America more than Europe. Our European businesses are growing, but we have a bigger presence in the United States."

Companies such as BTR, BAT, Hanson, Unilever and GrandMet have significant American assets. These are big companies with more shares in play than their smaller counterparts, so when their shares move, they have a disproportionate effect on the market indices.

In addition, shares in a number of the large, UK companies are traded in the US in ADR (American Depository Receipt) form, and any massive movement in the ADR price is bound to have an effect on the share price in Britain. There is also the psychological factor. Sometimes market movements seem completely irrational and have more to do with sentiment than any concrete news.

Mr Urquhart Stewart added: "If one market is weak, out of safety the other markets will react and so will fund mangers who are running international books. So there will usually be some linkage between international markets."

But there are reasons why the UK should not be quite so quick to mirror the movements of the US. To start, one of the reasons for the recent US bloodbath was concern about the performance of the technology sector.

The UK does not have a technology sector, as such. In addition, there is growing fear in the US that the money from mutual funds, which has been supporting the stock market, is no longer flowing as vigorously into the market.

Mr Isherwood pointed out: "The flow of funds is different in the UK. Fund managers and institutions have been funnelling funds into overseas equities and bonds for some time.

"In the US, there is also concern about changing rates. In the UK market we're already discounting an upwards move in base rates. I actually think that UK equities look cheap against cash."

MARK STENNING

Mrs Merton, star of two British Gas Home Energy commercials, may be sitting pretty, but have British Gas's small shareholders been left out in the cold?

Should Sid stick with his old flame?

Pity poor Sid, the punter who bought into the British Gas privatisation in 1986. Given the recent, appalling performance of the shares, he might have been better off leaving his money in the building society (Karen Zagor writes).

Anyone who had any doubt about the wisdom of a gas investment will have received cold comfort from Sir Denis Rooke, British Gas former chairman, who this week said the company's two million shareholders had been "conned because people have moved away from the prospectus a great deal and nothing has every been done and there has not even been any real explanation."

Analysts blame the tough regulatory regime, which has cut into British Gas profits growth and impaired its dividend ability. It is unclear how investors will benefit from the company's decision to split into two businesses — TransCo and British Gas Energy. For shareholders, the decision to sell now or wait may become easier after next week, when Ofgas, the industry regulator, is expected to announce its final ruling on pricing, which will shape the company's future performance. But if British Gas does not accept the final offer, the issue could drag out another year.

■ How have the shares fared since 1986?
At the launch, they were 135p. At the current 185p anyone who bought would have seen an average growth of 3.4 per cent a year — significantly lower than the FT-SE All Share 9 per cent a year in the same period. The price peaked at 357.50p in January 1994.

■ How high are the dividends?
In the early days, there was a generous 4p a share payment. Now, the dividend has been frozen for three years at 8.1p and it may be reduced.

■ Why has life been so tough for British Gas?
Investors could not have foreseen the power of Ofgas. But moves to make gas more competitive have taken a big bite out of profits.

■ What about the demerger?
Next year, British Gas will be split. British Gas Energy will carry most of the liabilities. TransCo International, the shipping and production arm, will contain traditional money-spinners. However, until pricing is fixed it is impossible to forecast TransCo's future earning or dividend power.

■ What does the market expect of British Gas?
With the opening up of the domestic gas market, British Gas will continue to face a tough time. Andrew Couch, of Guinness Flight, said: "The shares won't move much outside the 170p-195p range until the pricing issue is resolved." But since the shares now take account of the increased competition to come in the new year, any good news from Ofgas should boost the price.

Bad timing generates fallout for British Energy flotation

The timing of British Energy's announcement that it intended to shut two generators at two of its eight power stations could not have been worse. (Caroline Merrell writes).

Although the power generator announced on July 4 that it had found a cracked weld at Hinckley Point B, it waited until July 10, after the public offer had closed, to reveal that this would mean the immediate shutdown of identical reactors to check for the same fault. British Energy's profits are highly sensitive to stoppages in supply.

If the 600,000 investors had been armed with this knowledge earlier, some may have chosen not to invest. The

shutdown helped British Energy to become the first privatised company to fall to a discount on the offer price since the sale of BP in 1987, falling from 100p to around 94p in the first week, with 163 million of the 700 million *shares changing hands in the* first day. The price fell in spite ofBZW, the Government's broker, stemming the losses. Brokers were angry about the timing of the announcement. But the company said it acted as soon as it was able. It said: "These events occur from time to time and allowances are built in."

Fraser McLaren, Greig Middleton investment analyst, said: "We believe the share at this price is undervalued. We think the true value is about 250p. We are not adjusting our figures yet."

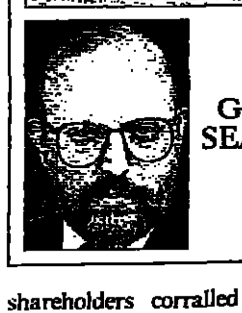
Other analysts believe the closures underline the potential volatility of the share. Philip Epsley, of Albert E Sharpe, said: "The poor start *has been bad for confidence.* It shows the high risk nature of the company." He said the share would have to fall to 83p to wipe out the effect of the first year's dividend. He and others believe general choppy market conditions had a big impact on the first day.

Stock market jitters have also been touted as the reason for downbeat assessments of the future performance of Somerfield, the supermarket group, which is being floated. The share price of the company is estimated at about 180p-190p. Analysts believe the group will find it hard to expand in a market which already has huge competition.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

More commitment please

PERSONAL INVESTOR



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Little shadow has been cast by the Weinberg report on private share ownership. The independent committee was commissioned by the Stock Exchange in a fit of guilt after it changed the rules to allow all companies to float without offering shares to the public. But neither the exchange, nor the committee, necessarily thought there was much of a problem to be solved.

The report implies that the exchange was a mite precipitate, but that the trebling of share ownership through privatisation is pretty healthy anyway. It will automatically reach a new peak next year when top building societies convert. Efforts are being made to look after existing investors' interests but new post-privatisation, post-welfare generations need to be educated in the virtues of investing in equities.

From between the lines, however, a basic unresolved conflict seeps out. On the one hand, small investors are a jolly good thing. They provide capital for industry, liquidity for the stock market and "help to create a wider understanding, particularly among employees, of the importance of a company's success". On the other hand, they are an uneconomic nuisance. Most of British industry is being run for cash at minimum cost. The last thing it needs is an expensive form of capital in penny packets with maximum hassle.

The actions of the market are speaking louder than the worthy sentiments. The exchange eased listing rules to encourage more companies to join at lower cost. ProShare is battling against the tide to secure full rights for shareholders corralled into nominee holdings. Small investors in British Energy had to accept a "fair" market price set by institutional investors, only to be left with most of a pig in a poke.

As Sir Mark Weinberg and some of his committee are well aware, you can invest in equities just as easily through anonymous, well-marketed trusts. These are clearly economic for the 80 per cent of portfolios under £5,000.

If share ownership aimed to identify people with the aims of industry, it failed. Most own only privatised utilities, the focus of media opprobrium and political attack. Small investors may suspect they are paid lip service only for political reasons. If the shareholder interest numbers ten million, it is harder to attack than a small, wealthy minority. Even if that were so, companies, the Exchange and policymakers need to resolve the conflict if individual shareholding is to flourish post privatisation.

Small investors tend to buy new issues and be net sellers of "second hand" shares. Public offers are advertised. They can be bought without paying commission or stamp duty and without the perceived hassle of using an intermediary. The privatisation programme's success depended on that and provided a guide for the future.

If the traditional public offer is uneconomic, new forms should be developed that are equally cheap and easy for investors. Rights issues dilute private shareholding. The debate over their future is complex. But perhaps firms should be able to make secondary issues via share shops, or market other securities tailored to small investors.

Small holdings, those of £1-3,000 at least, could be made more economic for companies. Government could offer corporation tax incentives to entice more individual holders with full rights onto share registers. It would be better if companies turned their private shareholders into an affinity group — owners rather than mere capital providers — and made their register a profit-earner. More companies could promote single-company Peps. They certainly should not load the cost of small holdings on to retail brokers, who must pass it on.

The Stock Exchange should now set up a separate "local" list of smaller companies and others that genuinely wished to attract small investors. The local market would have rules friendlier to small investors. If not, statute will be needed to restore small shareholders' rights, however costly that might be.

The offshore investment that's all plain sailing

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Pension payout blocked for want of a piece of paper

Caroline Merrell says a marriage certificate suddenly becomes very important when a partner dies

Equal in life, not so in death: Paul Gerber, with daughter Lauren and son Adam, needs the pension his partner paid into for 15 years

The increasing number of couples who choose cohabitation over marriage may be giving up far more than the opportunity to buy a nice frock and spend a large sum on a party and a holiday. Although live-in lovers may believe that their relationship is the equivalent of a marriage, they may discover too late that they do not have the same rights as husbands and wives, especially when it comes to pensions.

According to the latest statistics, 380,000 couples in this country choose to live together rather than to marry. Many of those who shun marriage also choose to have children. In 1994, of 215,000 children born outside marriage, 124,000 were born to cohabiting couples. But most public-sector and private-sector pensions do not give cohabiting scheme members the same rights as those who are married.

Spouses of most private-sector and public-sector scheme members benefit from a reduced pension if the member dies. The widow or widower's pension is usually half the total pension, although some schemes pay two-thirds.

Those who live with their partner are unlikely to enjoy the same rights. A National Association of Pension Funds survey found 79 per cent of public-sector schemes and 28 per cent of private-sector schemes never provided the equivalent of a widow's or widower's pension to cohabitees. Public-sector schemes represent 85 per cent of the workforce, while the private-sector schemes represent 15 per cent.

One who has suffered because of what he believes is the discriminatory nature of his former partner's pension scheme is Paul Gerber, of Ffairal, Llandeilo, near Carmarthen. Dodie Garson, his girlfriend of 10 years, died last year of cancer. She had worked for the local authority as a community worker, among other things, for about 15 years, and had contributed to the local authority pension scheme. Mr Gerber and Ms Garson had two children together, now aged five and seven. After the death of his partner, Mr Gerber, a project manager with the NSPCC, had to take seven months off work to sort out his affairs and give his children the attention he felt they needed.

If the couple had been married, Mr Gerber would have benefited from the widower's pension offered by the local authority scheme. "It seems very unfair to be excluded from the pension," he said. "We shared a mortgage, and the responsibility of children. I spoke to an officer at the local authority, who was very helpful but very clear about the scheme rules. I have appealed over the decision."

Public-sector schemes are those run for local government, the Civil Service, the National Health Service and teachers. All would have treated Mr Gerber the same way.

Barry Fawcett, head of pensions in the National Union of Teachers, said: "It is a problem over which we are lobbying the Government." The NUT has contributed to the findings of a TUC working party report on the issue of dependants' pensions. The report argues that those who cohabit should have the same rights as those who are married. The Government has so far been reluctant to grant dependants the same rights.

Mr Fawcett is baffled by its reluctance. He said: "Private-sector schemes have made a lot of progress in this regard. Many have altered the rules of their schemes, which suggests it does not cost all that much.

"The issue of the public-sector scheme is very much in the Government's court," he added. The union expects the Government to respond before the end of the year. Joanne Segars, TUC pensions officer, said: "We have been campaigning on this point for several years. We think the costs of granting this concession have been overestimated by the Government." She added it would take an Act of Parliament to change the rules.

Many of the biggest of the private-sector schemes have a far more flexible attitude. For example, British Telecom, with more than 126,000 members in its pension scheme, will treat unmarried and married couples in a fairly similar way.

BT said: "If the couple has been living together for five years or more, we would assume their finances were entwined and they were interdependent. We would pay the equivalent of a widow's pension to the surviving partner, even if the couple were of the same sex. If the couple had been together for less than five years, we would look for clear signs of interdependency, before paying the pension."

British Airways has also recently changed the rules of its pension scheme so that married and non-married couples would be treated the same. In order to help private-sector pension schemes to adopt a more flexible attitude, the Inland Revenue last month clarified the definition of the word dependant.

The rules now say: "An unmarried partner, whether of the same or opposite sex, can qualify for the survivors' pension if they are deemed to be dependent on the employee. Financial interdependence would be an acceptable criterion, eg, where the partner relied on the second income to maintain a standard of living which had depended on joint income."

A QUESTION OF MONEY

In or out? Solving the mysteries of pension schemes

About 11 million people belong, through present or former companies, to occupational pension schemes. However, for the vast majority of those who participate in such company schemes, the exact nature of what their plans offer remains a complete mystery.

Their opaque nature is not helped by the fact that the pensions industry likes to use the most complicated jargon it possibly can to describe how the schemes work. Here, *The Times* tries to answer some basic questions about how company schemes work.

Q What are the basic types of company pension schemes?

A Company pensions are either based on your salary during the final year of employment or are based on the contributions you and your employer put in.

A final salary scheme is defined by the benefits it provides, up to a maximum of two-thirds of final salary. The amount that is contributed by the employer and the employee to produce the benefits, depends on how the particular scheme is organised.

More than 50 per cent of all company schemes are final-salary schemes, although this percentage is falling because some pension scheme managers claim that they will be unable to continue to provide the guaranteed benefits.

A money-purchase scheme, as its name suggests, is where the benefits provided by the pension scheme are linked to the investment performance of the combined contributions made by the employee and the employer. Again, a money-purchase scheme is subject to the Inland Revenue limits of two-thirds of final salary. The amount of pension received will be linked to the level of annuity that can be purchased using the mature pension fund.

Q How do company pension schemes relate to the state earnings related pension scheme?

A Company pension schemes can be contracted in or contracted out of Serps. A contracted-in scheme means that the employee will get a Serps pension on top of the pension he or she receives from their employer.

The level of pension a person receives from the State is linked to the level of National Insurance contributions the individual has made over their lifetime.

A contracted-out scheme means that the employer will put more money into the pension scheme on the employee's behalf. The employer and the employee will pay less in National Insurance contributions as a result.

Individual scheme members can opt to contract in or to contract out of Serps on their own behalf, regardless of their particular scheme.

The decision about whether an individual should be contracted in or contracted out, depends on the age of the member because the level of rebate changes with age.

Q How can individual members contract out of Serps on their own behalf?

A It is possible for individuals to contract out of Serps using a rebate-only personal pension, which is offered by most insurance companies.

Q Are there any other issues members should consider in their decision about whether to contract in or to contract out of Serps?

A Changes introduced in this year's Pension Act mean that contracted-out money purchase schemes (Comps) may not be so viable.

Sun Life has written to the trustees of 340 company pension schemes, with a total of 20,000 members, to give them warning that it is no longer cost-effective for schemes to be contracted out of the state earnings related pension scheme.

The warning comes in the wake of changes introduced in this year's Pension Act, which mean that from next April, the Serps rebate paid by the Department of Social Security will be much more expensive to collect and will be less than it has been in previous years.

The new rules will affect all contracted-out money purchase schemes and it is likely that other insurance companies will be writing to trustees to alert them to the changes.

Sun Life, which was one of the biggest providers of contracted-out money purchase schemes, has decided to withdraw from the market altogether.

Paul Smith, Sun Life business development manager, said: "From next year, scheme members who need to be contracted out of Serps should do so using a personal pension."

Mr Smith believes that the company schemes would, with the contracting out rebate, have to produce an 11 per cent a year better return, on average, for them to be equivalent to a personal pension.

However, other pension companies do not agree with Sun Life's analysis of the figures and believe that contracted-out money purchase schemes are still viable.

CAROLINE MERRELL

Britannia's wavy rules on loyalty bonuses

SOCIETY WATCH

The Britannia Building Society is busy mailing its 1.6 million members details of its loyalty bonus scheme, which is intended to convince them that they are better off remaining members of a mutual building society than being taken over or converting to a bank.

But members will take some persuading. For one thing, the scheme seems unnecessarily complicated in view of the relatively small amounts of money at stake. You get points for holding Britannia Life life policies, pensions and investments, savings and mortgages. Each earns a different amount depending on how much you have invested. To work out your bonus, you add your points together and multiply by 20p. Longstanding members of the society earn extra points. If you have managed to get this far, your patience will be rewarded by the discovery that you qualify for a loyalty bonus of a maximum of £500.

You will, however, also discover, as *Weekend Money* reader Thomas Fletcher did, that the scheme is constructed so that borrowers can amass points to earn the £500 maximum more easily than savers, even if the latter have large balances.

Mr Fletcher points out that anyone with monthly mortgage payments of £500 or more will immediately earn 500 points. Under the scheme, one point is awarded for each £1 of monthly mortgage payment due, based on a monthly average over the year. At current interest rates, you need a mortgage of about £85,000 to have monthly payments of £500. The 500 points awarded will translate into a bonus of £100.

But the structure for savers is different. The maximum balance that will earn bonuses is £20,000. Points are built up at one point per £100 invested.

Is Britannia more interested in its loyal borrowers than loyal savers?

On £20,000, you will earn a maximum of 200 points. This will translate into a bonus of just £80. This has enfuriated savers with balances above £20,000, who, until recently, included Mr Fletcher. He says: "As far as this particular saver is concerned, my reaction has been to reduce my balance to £20,000 and once I have received my first year loyalty bonus, the account will be closed. Britannia Building Society has tested my loyalty too far."

Mr Fletcher has been with the Britannia for seven years, which would give him half as many points again, making a bonus of £120. But a borrower in the same position would still get £150. Britannia said: "We are trying to calculate the relationship people have with the society. We feel savers with large balances have already got value because they have got, and will get, preferential rates on their savings." Savers may find this argument hard to appreciate, given the low rates of recent years. Cynics could say Britannia is more interested in loyal borrowers than savers.

An estimated 200,000 National & Provincial Visacard customers will suffer a loss of identity after the merger with Abbey National on August 5. N&P has sent a letter to its Visacard holders informing them that their existing photocards will be withdrawn and replaced with a cheaper version — without the added security of either a photograph or embossed signature. This news has angered many N&P customers who had felt reassured that it was doing something positive to combat card fraud.

National & Provincial said many people had chosen its credit card on this basis in the three years since its introduction, in May 1993. Although N&P customers can continue to use their present cards, after renewal they must switch to Abbey's. "Abbey National has already launched its cards and has no plans to include photos on them," N&P said.

However, although photocards give customers more peace of mind, research shows photo identification has had minimal impact on the reduction of card fraud. This fell from £165 million in 1992 to £83.3 million last year, but was due to a change in authorisation policy, said Wynne Evans, of Apacs. "Only 1 per cent of cards have photos, so the fall can in no way be attributed to their introduction. And they are not a realistic long-term answer. Either a chip card will be developed or a biometric solution will be found requiring voice or fingerprint identification."

While the battle of the banks and building societies continues, customer reassurance and loyalty must be a top priority. With more than 90 per cent of customers in favour of the introduction of photocards, can the Abbey afford to lose a single one?

SARA MCCONNELL AND LIZANNE ROSE

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Spring clean leaves stains

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

Before the summer holidays, there has been some spring cleaning at the investor watchdogs. But officials have not been busy enough with their mops and dusters.

It is certainly good news that the Personal Investment Authority, the body responsible for ensuring best behaviour among insurers and advisers, plans to regulate long-term care schemes. To date, this kind of cover which pays out if you need residential care in old age, has been outside the PIA's watchful eye. *Weekend Money* pointed the considerable risks in allowing such a lucrative market to develop without restriction.

The PIA's action on long-term care may avert a crisis similar to the personal pensions scandal. However, the PIA's progress in resolving the pensions affair, a large stain on the insurance industry's record, still leaves much to be desired.

This week, the Trades Union Congress published *Justice Delayed* which detailing the continuing delays in compensating those wrongly advised to reject company schemes, with good benefits, in favour of poor value personal pensions. The examples highlighted include older people who are supposed to be priority cases, but who have yet to receive redress for their losses.

The PIA should immediately stop talking tough and start using its muscle against the culprits. Pressure should also come from those groups, like Barclays Life, that have taken their compensation duties seriously.

One possible sanction against the dilatory could be to deny them licences to sell long term care insurance. For those who were happy to sell inferior pensions, condemning thousands to a penurious retirement and now refusing to make amends are certainly not fit to have further involvement in the welfare of the elderly.

Sound of silence

THE Halifax Building Society has now explained why its conversion is taking so long. Many of its nine million members, agog for their free shares, have wondered how a wait of 31 months could be warranted.

Their cash has been locked up in the society since November 25, 1994, when merger and conversion plans were revealed. But the stock market flotation will not take place until June, 1997.

In a booklet to be sent to the Halifax faithful this week, Mike Blackburn, Halifax's chief executive, acknowledges the criticism and puts the blame on the problems involved in bringing together the leviathan member databases of the Leeds and the Halifax. Cleverly Mr Blackburn then makes a virtue out of necessity. The Halifax, he explains, is eager to ensure that as many savers as possible benefit from the additional variable share distribution reserved for those with balances of £1,000 plus.

Only savers who have been with the society for at least two years prior to the all important qualifying date can participate in this distribution. The qualifying date now been set at 31 December 1996, allowing thousands more savers than was originally anticipated to benefit.

To its credit, the Halifax is, at least, attempting to keep its savers and borrowers informed.

This is in marked contrast to the Alliance & Leicester which aims to reach the stock market in April 1997, but has said next-to-nothing about its plans.

It is not even known whether the society has in mind a variable distribution for investors with larger balances. The Alliance & Leicester's silence is beginning to look more and more like a attempt simply to retain millions in savers' cash, while leaving them in ignorance.

Taxpayers face £30 a day fines

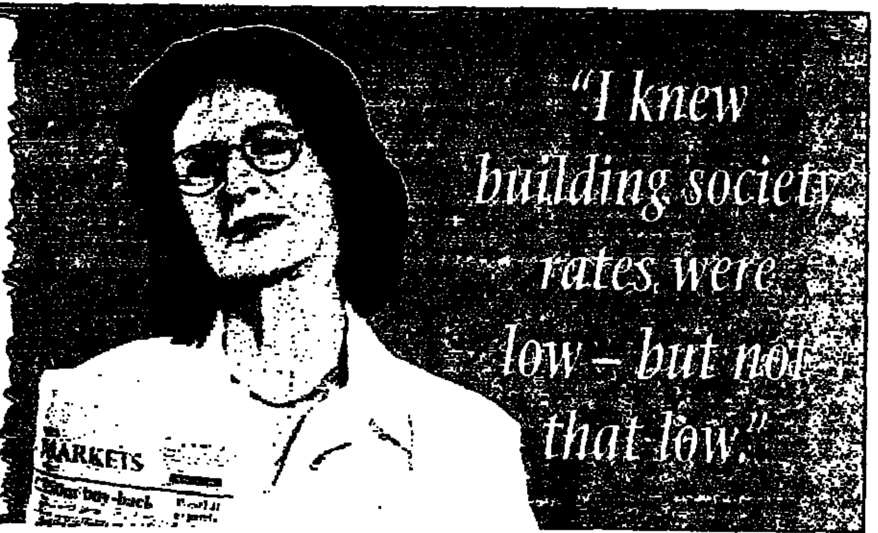
TAXPAYERS who fail to give the Inland Revenue sufficient detail about their tax affairs could find themselves clocking up fixed penalties of up to £30 a day until they respond to the Revenue's satisfaction.

The Revenue this week published a new code of practice for inquiries, which will come into operation with the new system of self assessment. The code spells out for the first time how the Revenue will handle its inquiries. From April 1997, if you are among the 4.5 million people who fill in a tax return, you will be offered the choice of calculating your own tax bill or getting the Revenue to do it. If you take the latter option you will have to provide exact figures by the end of September after the tax year, a month earlier than now.

Revenue offices have been given new powers to penalise people for incomplete returns, without having first to get the approval of the tax commissioners. Information can be checked on any return up to 12 months after receiving it and answers can be demanded. Offices can either carry out a full investigation of your affairs, or check out one aspect of your return. If the taxman wants more information, he will give 30 days. If you fail to respond, you will get a formal written notice and 30 days to supply details. If you still do not respond you will get an immediate £50 penalty. Additional daily penalties of up to £30 could be incurred, depending on the decision of your local tax inspector. There is no time limit on the penalties.

Revenue can punish people for incomplete tax returns

SARA MCCONNELL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When the momentum stops

Money managers are quite prepared to use any tool at hand, including astrology, to make their cash piles grow. The latest such fad comes from Thornton which plans to launch an investment trust that will build *its portfolio of UK smaller companies* using the American "Momentum" technique of share picking.

William H. "Beau" Duncan Jr, founder and chief executive of Duncan-Hurst *Capital Management, a Californian* manager that looks after more than $1 billion, writing in the *Global Guide to Investing*, explains the theory of momentum investing as "similar to one of Newton's Laws which states that once an object is set in motion it stays in motion until stopped, and when an object is stationary, it tends to remain that way until something moves it."

Mr Duncan continues: "In a similar fashion, a corporation having fundamental problems will probably continue with those problems longer than expected, and a *corporation which has experienced* faster growth will probably continue that rapid growth longer than expected. Whatever the factors causing the change in corporate momentum — changes in management, new products, changes in competition, those factors will remain in effect longer than expected."

TRUST WATCH

Thornton, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dresdner Bank, says its Momentum trust "will initially invest in those stocks in the FT-SE Small Cap index which fall within the top half of the consensus earnings forecast upgrades by Independent Brokers Estimates Service for the three months prior to investment.

"After the first three months of the *company's operations, a quarter of the* portfolio will be sold and re-invested in the stocks which at that time are within the top half of the upgrades. After six months a third of the remaining original portfolio *will be sold and reinvested in* the same way; after nine months one half of the remaining original portfolio will be sold and reinvested ... the turnover of the company's entire portfolio during a year could therefore be less than, but will in any event not exceed, *100 per cent.*"

Momentum as an investment tool is no better or worse than any other. But as one adviser noted: "If it was the ultimate investment panacea we would all have been *doing it years ago.*"

ROBERT MILLER

Coin fraudster jailed for six years

Sara McConnell on a seven-year scam for supposedly rare coins

A seven-year fraud first exposed by *The Times* finally ended in Snaresbrook Crown Court, East London, last Friday when Nigel Goldman, former chairman of Rare Coin Investments, was jailed for six years. Goldman had defrauded up to 100 investors, who parted with an *estimated total of £700,000* for portfolios of supposedly rare coins. These later turned out to be almost worthless, or non-existent.

Goldman's activities were first highlighted by *The Times* in November 1991, in an article warning potential investors to treat with caution his claim that a rare coins portfolio would "significantly outperform most traditional investment schemes". Goldman promised a "high profit, low-risk investment" in advertisements that included performance graphs which purported to show that £1,000 invested in rare coins would turn into £11,000 ten years later, compared with £5,000 in a "selected" performing investment trust and £4,000 in an *average performing unit* trust". Claims were based only on RCI's own statistics.

Some investors put tens of thousands of pounds into the coins. They were then persuaded over the telephone to buy more. Eighteen months after *The Times* first investigated Goldman's activities, Rare Coin Investments went into receivership. Coins as an investment are not covered by the Financial Services Act, so investors cannot claim under the Investors Compensation Scheme.

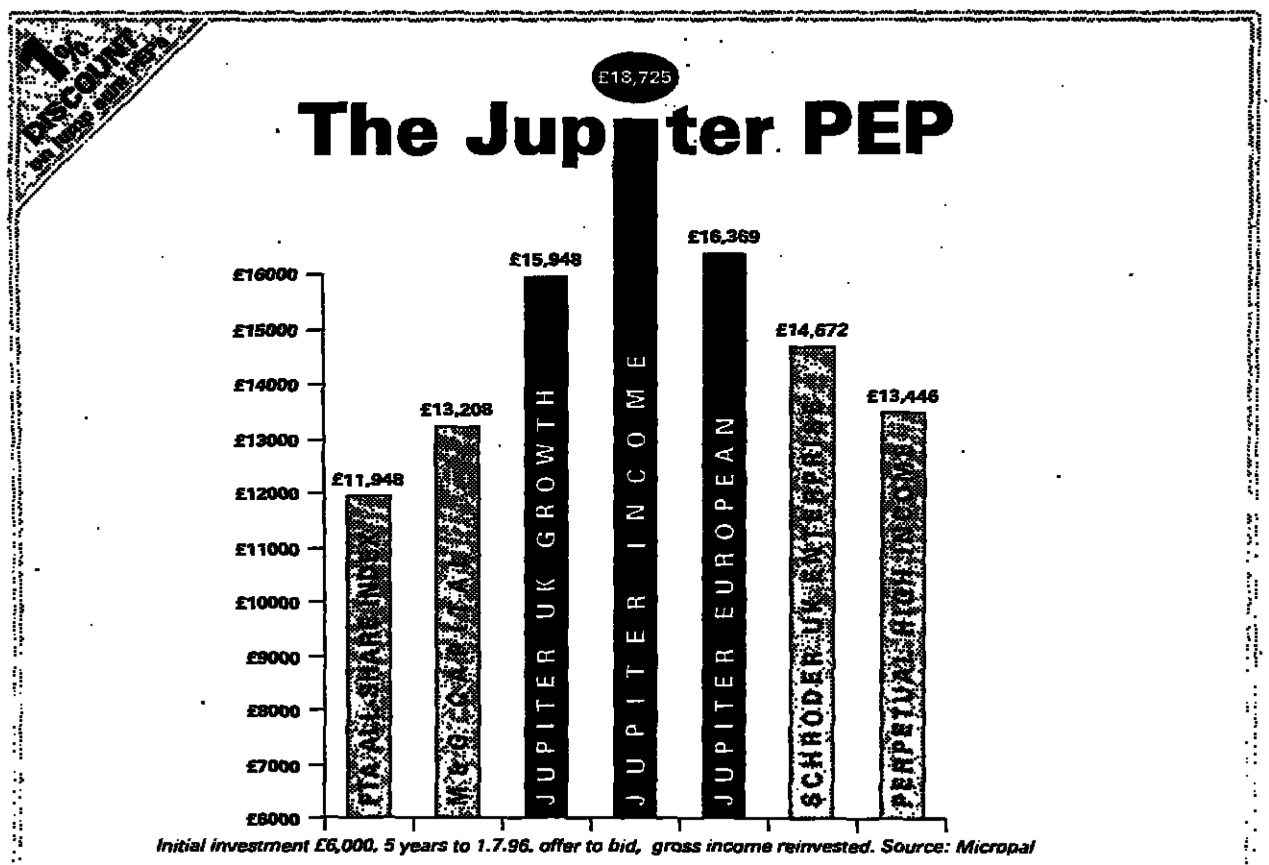
Police have spent this week contacting 47 of the investors to return coins and documentation. About half of these never got the coins they paid for. Others did have coins but these are worth significantly less than Goldman claimed. They were sealed into plastic slabs after grading by one of two American grading houses, the Professional Coin Grading *Service (PCGS) or the Numismatic* Guarantee Corporation.

Goldman told *The Times* that coins were worth more in slabs because they had been independently certified. But experts said there was no *market for slabbed coins in the* UK.

'High profit' claims for rare coins challenged

By Sara McConnell

How Weekend Money first highlighted the fraud in 1991



Initial investment £6,000, 5 years to 1.7.96, offer to bid, gross income reinvested. Source: Micropal

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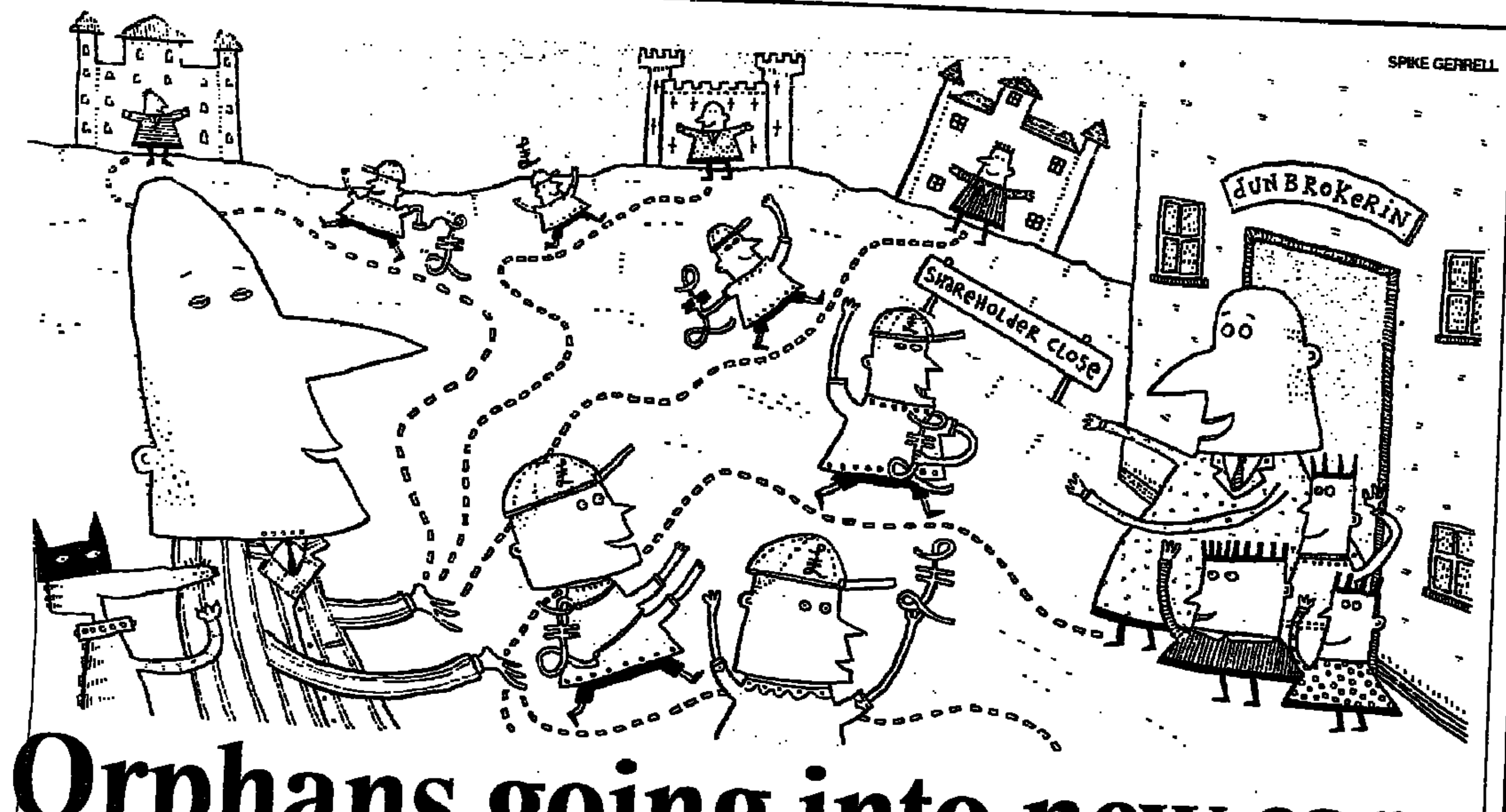

SPIKE GERRELL

Orphans going into new care

Marianne Curphey on the background and benefits of the big life insurers' assets giveaway

The life insurance industry has been buzzing this week with talk of "orphan" assets and big payouts for policyholders and shareholders. The giant insurer Pearl announced it was redistributing almost £1 billion and Refuge is believed to be close to announcing a bumper payout. But what does this mean, and how will it benefit you?

What are orphan assets?
They are a sum of money in the life fund which is more than that needed to meet "the reasonable demand of policyholders". In effect, this means the amount policyholders can expect from their annual bonuses, plus enough to cover more than adequately future payouts if the fund goes through some lean years.

These assets have built up over decades because the past profits from investment have exceeded the actual payouts given to policyholders, often because actuaries have been extremely prudent when setting the levels to be paid out. They have also accrued because the maximum management fee has not always been charged to the life fund. In the early years of a fund shareholders often left in their entitlements to allow the fund to grow.

Why are they so important?
If orphan assets are discovered and redistributed they can provide large special bonuses or dividends for shareholders in the company. Policyholders may also benefit, although this differs from one insurer to another. Often the insurer will pay an extra sum to policyholders as a gesture of goodwill. This happened in the case of Legal & General, which originally omitted with-profits policyholders from its plans to redistribute surplus funds. They eventually shared in a £160 million special payout earlier this year.

Has anyone else benefited from them so far?
The issue first arose in 1992, when London & Manchester won approval from the Department of Trade and Industry, which regulates insurance companies, to redistribute surplus funds. United Friendly also was allowed to give away £275 million of a £2 billion life fund to shareholders.

Are any other companies looking at redistribution?
Pearl Assurance, another life company, has announced that shareholders will receive a payout of nearly £1 billion from the surplus in its life fund. With-profits policyholders will share in a £315 million special bonus "as a goodwill gesture". Meanwhile, Refuge is believed to be a matter of months away from announcing that the DTI has approved its plans to redistribute up to £650 million from its life fund. Britannic hopes to have word from the DTI by the end of the year on whether its estimated £1.2 billion surplus can be given away.

Who else might be on the list?
Royal London and Weselyan, both mutual societies, are also likely to pay out a special bonus from their life funds, according to Securitised Endowment Contracts, a company which analyses life funds.

How does a company go about it?
The company appoints an actuary to investigate whether orphan assets might be available. When their presence has been established, the insurer contacts the DTI and discussions begin. The DTI and an independent actuary look into the structure of the company carefully and examine records going back many decades. Often the issue takes months to resolve.

What would it mean to me as a policyholder?
The distribution depends on whether the DTI agrees with the insurance company on who is entitled to which part of the surplus. The company will suggest where the money should go. A policyholder may well get a payout of several hundred pounds, but it is a sum that is added to the terminal bonus of the policy. The policyholder will not be allowed to withdraw it or enjoy it until the policy has matured. During the life of the policy it will grow and build up interest. A payout will not be available if the policy has matured a few days before the announcement, or if it is a general insurance policy or unit trust investment.

Bonuses to Pearl policyholders will vary in size depending on the type of policy held, but a customer with a 25-year endowment policy started in 1975, with a sum assured of £6,000, for example, will have an extra £246 added to the policy this year.

And as a shareholder?
Shareholders have enjoyed extremely generous payouts in the past. This is why all the quoted life insurers thought to have orphan assets have been popular with City investors and their share price has been rising steadily. After Pearl's announcement, shares in Britannic, Refuge and United Friendly all rose.

Is it worth buying a policy in the hope of earning a payout?
In most cases, the payouts are not large enough to justify committing yourself to a 25-year savings plan in the hope of earning a few hundred pounds in a bonus.

And the shares?
Most in the City feel that the good news about orphan assets is already factored into the price. This means that traders have bought up the shares in anticipation of a bumper dividend. There may, however, still be some room for the shares to move upwards, but in the stock market, nothing is guaranteed.

How you rate after the Tessa deadline

Many of those who chose not to reinvest the proceeds from their maturing Tax Exempt Special Savings Accounts straight away will now be up against the six-month deadline for taking out a follow-on Tessa.

The rules governing the maturing savings plans give savers six months to decide where, and if, to reinvest £9,000 of their maturities in to a new account. Most of the biggest building societies will write to their savers to remind them of the approaching deadline. Those who choose to leave their money languishing in a matured account will earn interest according to the strategy of the particular society. For example, the Halifax, which has the largest number of customers with maturing Tessas, will give its procrastinating savers a rate of 5.65 per cent. The interest will be taxed, until the savers have made up their mind.

Other societies will tend to put the matured funds on their instant access rate. For example, Nationwide would move the money in to its Cash Builder account, which pays 3.6 per cent for a balance of £13,000. Woolwich customers' maturing funds would be put on to Prime Gold instant access account, which pays 3.15 per cent on balances over £10,000. Abbey National will hold matured Tessa funds in its 90-day account, which pays 4 per cent on £9,000 plus.

Moneyfacts, the savings guide, recommends Tessas from the Northern Rock, Birmingham Midshires and C&G as among the best for those with maturing Tessas looking for a variable rate. Yorkshire, Natwest and Birmingham Midshires offer among the best fixed rates.

For those choosing to invest in a Tessa for the first time, Principality and Coventry offer among the best variable rates, while Birmingham Midshires and Yorkshire offer among the best fixed rates.

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THE TIMES MONEY·INFORMATION SERVICE

National Savings trims its rates

National Savings is cutting its rates for Income Bonds, FIRST Option Bonds, Investment and Ordinary Accounts by 0.25 per cent. This follows the 0.25 per cent reduction in base rate announced on June 6. The change to FIRST Option Bonds, from 6.25 per cent to 6 per cent gross, took effect on July 17. The new Investment Account and Ordinary Account rates will be effective from August 1. The Investment Account annual rate will fall to 4.75 per cent from 5 per cent and the Ordinary Account rate will be at 1.5 per cent (standard) and 2.5 per cent (higher). The rate for Income Bonds will be 6 per cent (under £25,000) and 6.25 per cent (£25,000+), from August 29. An *Interest Rate* leaflet can be obtained by calling 0500 500000.

☐ Lloyds Bank has published its tax guide for 1996-97 which covers the new regulations for this tax year. It outlines how the tax system works, describes the changes in the last Budget, explains how the family is taxed, how your income from work is treated, and how your money is taxed if invested. It also gives advice on inheritance and capital gains tax and instructions on filling in tax returns. The *Lloyds Bank Tax Guide 1996-97* is published by Penguin, at £8.99.

☐ The Share Centre has announced proposals to widen and deepen share ownership. These are outlined in *The Shareholder* which tackles issues such as the high costs of entering the market, rights of nominee shareholders and pre-emption rights. To encourage sharebuying, The Share Centre has cut its minimum purchase commission on its Economy Share Account from £7.50 to £2.50. For a copy of *The Shareholder*, call 0800 800008.

☐ Direct Line Insurance has launched a *DriveSafe* pack designed to help anyone planning a day out in the car — especially with children. The colourful pack includes information on potential hazards and how to avoid them, car safety advice and in-car games to keep children busy en route. To obtain a free copy, send two second-class stamps to: Direct Line *Family Days Out Pack*, PO Box 11, Hadleigh, Ipswich IP7 5DG.

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Alliance & Leic BS 0645 645660	Instant Dir	Postal	£5,000	5.40	Yly
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Inst Acc Post	Postal	£10,000	5.85	Yly
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Gt Nth Postal	Postal	£25,000	6.50	A/ Yly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Coventry BS 0345 665522	Postal 50	50 day p	£2,000	5.45	Yly
First National BS 0800 558844	90 Day Notice	90 day p	£10,000	6.20	Yly
Scarborough BS 0800 590578	Scarborough 100	100 day	£1,000	6.50	Yly
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Postal Dep Bond	30.6.99	£2,500	7.50	F/Yly

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505		5 year	£8,575	7.50	F/Yly
NatWest Bank 0800 200400		5 year	£5,000	7.45	F/Yly
Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721		5 year	£1,000	7.25	Yly
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£500	7.00	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	0.896%C	11.20%	Nil
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.00%	£12
People's Bnk Connecticut 0500 551055	MasterCard/Visa	1.13%	14.40%	Nil

PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	*no insurance*
Direct Line 0141 2489966	13.90%E	£112.86	£101.33
Alliance & Leic Grp 0116 2626262	14.80%	£114.93	£102.36
Midland Bank 0800 180180	14.90%	£115.82	£102.49

Nb. A = All withdrawals subject to 30 day loss of interest, C = no interest free period, E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policy holders over 22 years, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), P = By Post only

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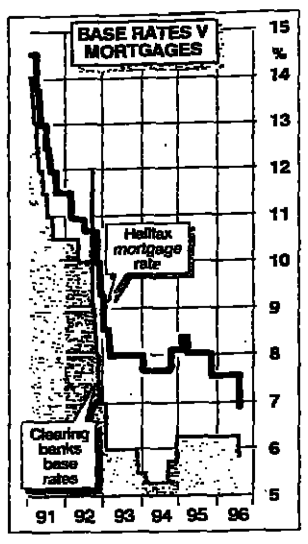
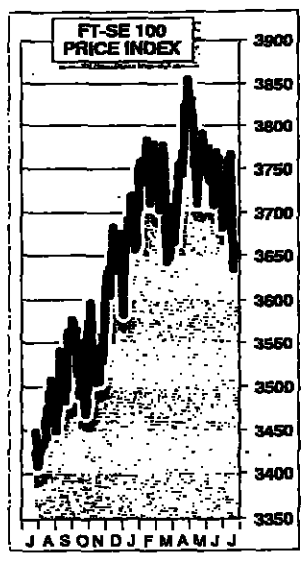
Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)





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Investment A/c*[6]	5.00	4.00	3.00	20-500**	1mth	0645 645000
Income Bond*[6]	6.25	5.00	3.75	2k-25k**	3mth	0645 645000
First Opt Bond[4]	6.00	4.80	3.60	1k-20k**		0645 645000
43rd Issue Certt[3]	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 645000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					0645 645000
Capital Bond[3][6]	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 645000
9th Index Linked†[3]	2.50			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Pensnrs Bond S3[6]	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50k[5]	60dy	0645 645000

[1] first £70 (£140 jt a/c) of int tax free. inst accs for up to £100 [2] Additional hldgs up to £20 000 for reinvested proceeds [3] Tax free [4] Rates gross and vble [5] Guaranteed when held for 5 years [6] £100 000 if in addition to S1 and S2 holdings [7] Taxable but +0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ ... cred in full †£500-100 000 earn higher rates. **Tiered rates apply

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential............Level	£10,467	£11,495	£12,393
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£10,255	£11,285	£12,593
Generali ....Level	£10,211	£11,238	£12,578
Canada Lfe ....Level	£10,058	£11,227	£12,310
Norwich Un..........Level	£10,261	£11,221	£12,553

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Norwich Un ....Level	£9,722	£10,458	£11,549
Prudential ....Level	£9,710	£10,443	£11,528
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£9,526	£10,252	£11,330
Generali ....Level	£9,320	£10,163	£11,334
Stalwart * ....Level	£9,267	£10,159	£11,139

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS *(level annuity)*	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Prudential ....Level	£9,323	£9,895	£10,708
Norwich Un ....Level	£9,301	£9,847	£10,637
Stalwart * ....Level	£9,158	£9,837	£10,609
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£9,159	£9,720	£10,526
Generali ....Level	£9,005	£9,621	£10,473

* Maximum £100,000. Higher rates for smokers. Source: *Annuity Direct (0171 588 9393*

Compiled by Lizanne Rose

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at July 17, 1996

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	5,000	AIG Life	4.75
	10,000	*AIG Life*	*4.85*
	20,000	AIG Life	4.90
	50,000	AIG Life	5.05
2 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.10
	10,000	AIG Life	5.65
	20,000	AIG Life	5.75
	50,000	AIG Life	5.85
3 Years			
	3,000	Pinnacle Insur	5.90
	10,000	AIG Life	5.98
	20,000	AIG Life	6.08
	50,000	AIG Life	6.18
4 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.95
	3,000	Pinnacle Insur	6.40
5 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.40
	3,000	Pinnacle Insur	6.55
	50,000	Abbey Life	6.70

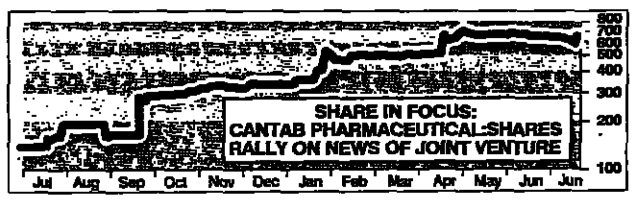
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	99.82	9.381	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	120.08	9.681	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	134.51	9.665	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	139.59	9.582	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	134.61	9.658	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	126.06	9.594	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	117.83	9.972	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	93.06	9.403	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	124.99	9.395	100.28	50,000
Halifax	13.625%	143.40	9.502	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	139.84	9.564	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	115.67	9.280	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	134.77	9.368	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	135.14	9.342	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	134.83	9.549	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	*Gross* coupon	*Buying* price	*Issue* price	*Minimum* purchase
Cheshire (28/09-21/03)	8.58750%	104.63	100.00	1,000
First Nat(20/03-20/09)	8.70625%	101.13	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West 0800 608088	0.95	£15k+	90	Fixd to 30.6.97
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	0.99	£100-150k	75	High Equity dis 6% to 1.8.97
National & Prov 01274 733444	1.34	£60k+	90	5.70% discount for 1 year
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25% disc 6 mth 3% disc 6 months
Nat West Home Loan 0800 400999	1.64	£15k+	75	5.23% discount for 12 months

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	0.70	to £150k	70	Super fix rate for 12 months
Hinckley & Rugby 0800 774499	0.20	to £150k	70	Fixed rates for 1 year
Nottingham Imper 0115 9817220	0.49	£2k+	70	6.50% discount to 31.7.97
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Nat West 0800 400999	1.64	£15k+	75	5.35% discount for 12 months

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West 0800 808088	0.95	£15k+	95	6.04% disc 6 mth, 2.00% disc 6 mths
Skipton *01756 700500*	0.99	£25-250k	95	6% disc 5 mnths 0.75% disc 1 year
Lambeth 0171 928 1331	3.74	£15-150k	95	3.25% discount for 12 months
Banks				
Bnk of Ireland *01734 510100*	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.50% disc 6 mth, 3% disc 6 months
Barclays Bank 0800 000929	3.24	£15-500k	95	3.75% discount for 12 months

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables by Blay's Guides. Information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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So you want to be in the movies?

Elizabeth Hurley in *Beyond Bedlam*

Do you ache to rub shoulders with the stars? Do you have the pulling power of Tom Cruise or Pamela Anderson?

If yes to the first and probably no to the second, do not despair. You too can be a contender — if you have money you can afford to lose. As the British film industry, helped by the success of films such as *Four Weddings and A Funeral* and *Shallow Grave* enjoys a resurgence, more opportunities for private investment in films are opening.

While films are risky ventures capable of spectacular losses, there is, says Paul Brooks, head of Metrodome, an AIM-listed production company, "More of an appetite for films from both the City and private investors."

A £60,000 investment from a UK investor got the fundraising ball rolling for director Michael Normand when looking to raise $1 million for *Dirty Laundry*, his new film. Although initially unsuccessful in his attempts to raise money through a UK venture capital group, Mr Normand, who co-wrote the award winning *Leon The Pig Farmer* was able to meet his target after approaching a number of US investors.

For more modest budgets, Scarlet Films of Pinewood hopes to raise £500,000 by the end of this month to fund its production of *The Scarlet Tunic*, the Thomas Hardy story. Star-struck investors are also offered the chance to appear in the film.

To boost the appeal to taxpaying investors, the funds are being raised under the Enterprise Investment Scheme, which offers tax relief on their investments and exemption from capital gains tax.

Minimum investment is £1,000 and says Zygi Kamasa, joint managing director of Scarlet Films: "The maximum an investor could lose under EIS is £480, as £520 of a £1,000 investment is tax-deductable."

Scarlet Films is hoping that its romantic drama set in 19th century England will prove a hit in the wake of costume drama successes such as *Sense and Sensibility*. So far, *The Scarlet Tunic*, whose cast includes Nigel Havers, Amanda Ryan and Anna Massey, has raised £350,000.

A costume drama of a different type is the vehicle of Cromwell Films in Stratford which is seeking £500,000 for its new production of *Macbeth*. It too is luring investors with a chance to take part and see their names on the screen when the credits roll. "Almost every application so far is from an investor who wants to be an extra," says Gwilym Davies, general manager.

Cromwell, which produced two previous films, *The Bruce*, and *Chasing the Deer* with private investor backing has opted for a debenture rather than equity structure to fund *Macbeth*, and dropped the minimum investment from £1,000 to £500. Subject to the film's success, the offer to investors is repayment of capital over five years with annual interest of 5 per cent on the outstanding capital balance and a profit share.

If feature films do not appeal, a number of documentary makers are also after your money. Carol Gould Productions is raising money under the EIS to fund a number of films including *Spitfire Girls* about the women pilots in World War II, while scientific filmmaker Peter Parks is raising money for wildlife films.

But if you are looking for a solid return on your investment, forget the movies. Even if the film is a fair success, earnings may arrive gradually as sales to television and video markets feed in later.

One route into the film world that offers a different spread of risk and a quicker route in and out for investors is to buy shares in a quoted film production company such as Winchester Multimedia.

Metrodome, which produced *Leon The Pig Farmer*, has followed a similar path to Winchester, raising money from private investors along the way and setting itself up as a vertically integrated company involved in production through to distribution.

"A single vehicle investment can be very risky for the small investor whereas we offer a spread of films," says Paul Brooks. These include *Solitaire for Two*, *Beyond Bedlam*, where the cast included Liz Hurley, and *Killing Time*, a thriller due for release in the autumn which is set to be Metrodome's most successful project yet having been sold to Colombia Tristar.

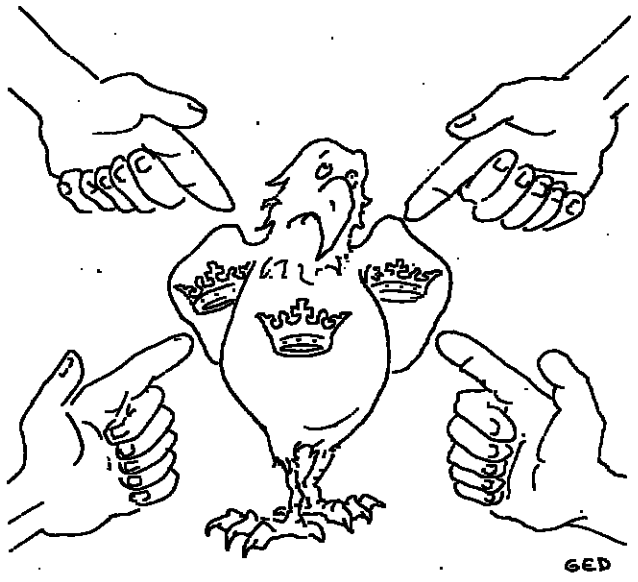
CLARE STEWART

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Digits don't add up in the Barclaycard French connection

From Dr M.J. Esten

Sir, I was pleased to see the two common problems concerning Barclaycard/Visa, namely "shortage of digits" and "lack of chip" addressed as separate and distinct issues in the same article (Credit card? No Francs, Weekend Money, July 6).



I have no problem with the French language, but I have a problem if I attempt to place either mail orders or bookings by telephone using a Barclaycard because it has "too few digits".

I tried to alert Barclaycard to the problem at least six years ago, only to be given the excuse that they were aware that there had indeed been such a problem during the previous few weeks, but this was being solved.

About a year later, I again contacted Barclaycard, reminding them that they still had the same "too few digits problem" and was again given the identical story. After years of this problem, I now rarely make telephone orders or bookings to France using Barclaycard/Visa.

Yours faithfully,
DR M.J. ESTEN,
"Magpies",
Frithsden Copse,
Berkhampsted, Herts.

New-style return is not as taxing

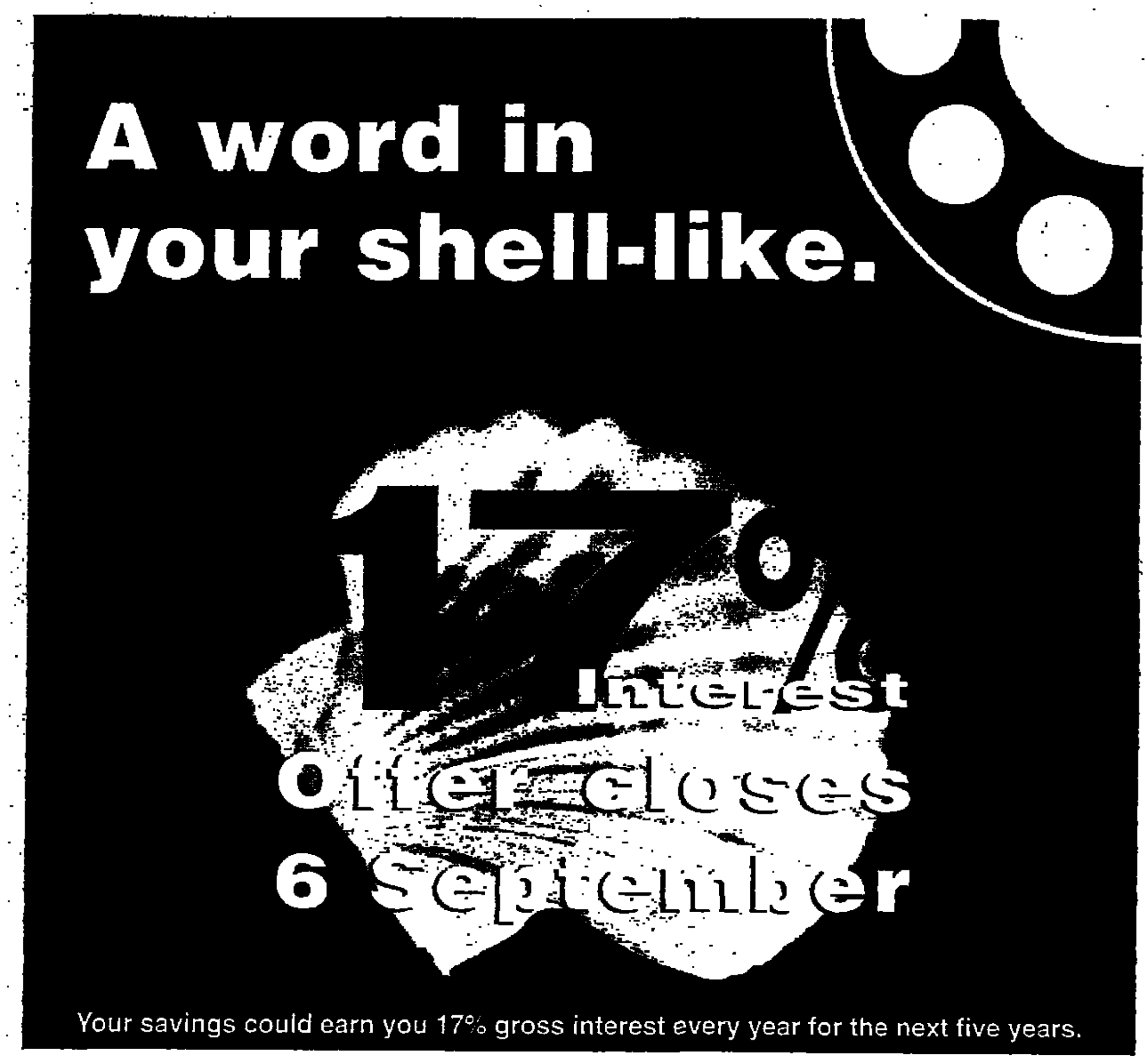
From Ms Theresa Middleton

Sir, Mr Evans's experience (Self-assessment fraught with danger, Weekend Money Letters, July 6) is not typical of those taxpayers who have so far taken part in our live trials of self-assessment.

They have certainly taken a little time to get used to the new tax return but, having done so, generally have found it and its accompanying notes no more difficult to fill in than the current tax return.

And, of course, they do not have to work out their own tax bill if they do not want to. The Inland Revenue will continue to do that for taxpayers who send in their returns by September 30.

Yours faithfully,
THERESA MIDDLETON,
Press Secretary,
Inland Revenue,
North West Wing,
Bush House, Aldwych, WC2.



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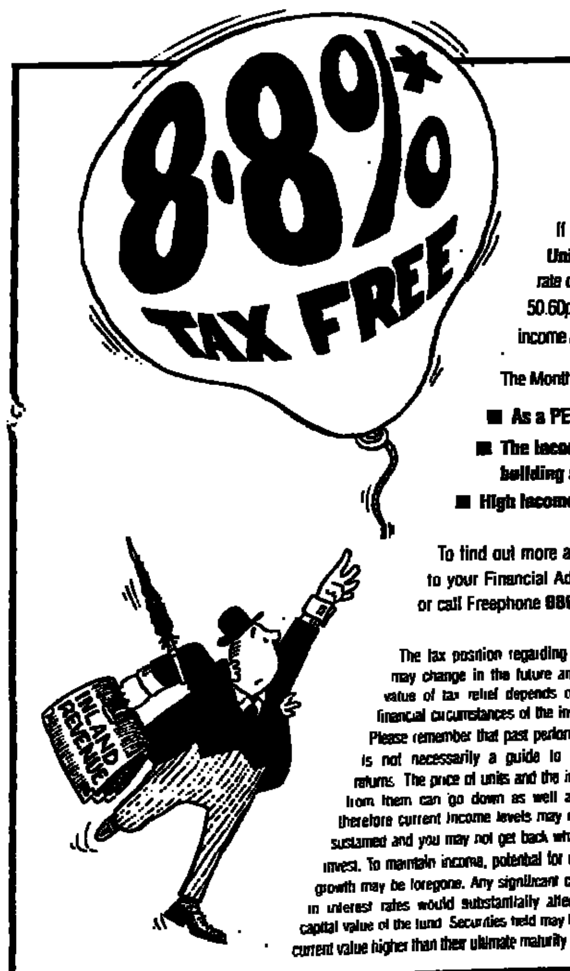

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AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 259 783				
Grofund Amer	209.20	221.40	- 0.80	0.15
Grofund Equity	270.50	287.70	+ 0.10	1.90
Grofund Euro	269.80	284.50	+ 0.40	0.57
Grofund Expt Bal	*131.80*	*136.70*		*2.57*
Grofund Gilt	77.53	79.93	+ 0.02	6.57
Grofund Japan	180.90	191.40	+ 1.30	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	644.50	685.70	+ 1.60	2.53
General Inc	547.60	582.60	+ 1.40	2.53
UK Growth Acc	438.10	466.10	+ 0.30	2.73
UK Growth Inc	287.70	306.10	+ 0.20	2.73
Higher Inc Acc	772.30	821.70	+ 3.40	4.26
Higher Inc Inc	421.30	448.30	+ 1.80	4.26
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	208.90	220.60	+ 0.70	5.60
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	93.74	99.02	+ 0.30	5.60
Nth America	359.70	382.20	+ 3.10	
Europe	358.30	381.20	+ 3.90	0.40
Brit Excell	86.96	92.51†	+ 0.20	2.93
Brit Frdnds Acc	111.50	118.70	+ 0.10	4.92
Brit Frdnds Inc	76.44	81.32	+ 0.08	4.92
Global Opps	103.40	110.10†	+ 0.80	0.08
Balanced Acc	82.11	86.08	+ 0.17	2.70
Balanced Inc	58.75	82.51	+ 0.16	2.70
Japan Acc	47.74	50.79	+ 0.34	
Pac Basin Acc	407.40	433.50	+ 0.50	0.86
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	129.20	137.10†	+ 0.10	7.12
High Inc Equity	177.50	189.80†	- 1.40	4.54
Worldwide Bond	288.30	305.70	+ 4.60	4.81
American Growth	368.50	385.50	- 1.40	0.19
Asian Pacific	342.50	366.30	+ 0.30	0.18
Assets & Earnings	292.60	312.90	- 3.40	2.84
Euro Capital Acc	182.20	194.90	+ 1.70	0.81
Extra Inc	*43.34*	*46.11†*	*- 0.13*	*7.77*
General	269.50	285.60	- 3.50	3.07
Global Opps	68.70	73.15	- 0.31	0.55
Japan	126.00	134.80	+ 1.80	
Managed Inc	47.54	50.57†	- 0.19	4.60
Mastertrust	167.40	179.00	- 0.70	0.81
US Emerging Cos	205.20	218.30	- 0.10	
Ethical	78.99	84.03†	- 1.18	2.84
International	139.40	148.30	+ 0.20	0.36
Dividend & Growth	66.04	70.26†	- 0.46	4.37
Global Gwth & Stc	73.10	78.08	+ 0.03	2.42
Latin America	65.64	69.83	- 1.37	
Capital Reserve	144.50	144.60	+ 0.20	5.19
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2278.00	2364.00	-64.00	
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	58.10	60.36	+ 0.33	0.51
Emerging Mkts	73.95	78.03	- 0.43	0.04
European	150.00	156.00	- 0.10	
Exempt	1070.10	1134.60†	-10.00	1.84
Extra Income #	45.32	48.56†	- 1.11	6.82
Far East Emg Eco	133.70	140.40†	+ 0.10	0.45
Fixed Interest #	25.03	26.03	- 0.13	9.26
Fund Inv Tst	148.00	155.40†	- 3.00	9.87
Japan	191.10	198.70	+ 2.00	
Latin American	59.08	61.60	- 0.99	0.79
Pacific	85.97	90.27	+ 0.60	0.29
Property Share	66.98	70.31†	- 0.56	2.50
UK Emerging Cos	*71.61*	*77.41†*	*- 1.32*	*1.24*
UK Growth	51.38	54.25	- 0.44	2.16
Aber World Port #	79.97	81.54†	- 0.42	1.92
Ethical	75.74	78.77†	- 0.48	2.24
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	*50.69*	*50.69†*	*+ 0.02*	*7.41*

For AEGON see Matheson

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 356 5868				
Results Property #	95.87	102.90	+ 1.40	5.05
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	88.11	93.49	- 0.50	2.15
Income Builder Inc	77.56	82.51†		4.40
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	272.30	291.00	- 1.70	3.19
Capital	481.00	514.10	- 5.80	1.22
Balanced	786.00	840.20†	- 4.70	2.45
Accumulator	1513.00	1617.00†	- 8.80	1.93
Income Trusts				
American Income	59.53	63.560	- 0.27	2.51
High Income	440.70	471.10	- 2.70	4.02
Equity Income	244.70	261.50†	- 1.40	4.04
High Yield	266.20	284.50	- 1.50	4.22
Govt Securities	*33.86*	*35.740*		*6.11*
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	199.20	212.60	- 0.80	0.05
European Growth	53.29	56.860	- 0.62	0.07
International	*188.50*	*201.30†*		*0.11*
Japan	216.90	231.80†	+ 2.50	
Pacific	428.60	458.10†	+ 1.60	
Secs of America	547.90	585.70	- 0.60	0.13
Wwide Asset Val	56.49	60.360	+ 0.24	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	607.00	648.80	- 3.60	2.10
Conv & Gilt	48.02	51.330	- 0.50	4.22
Smaller Cos	209.80	224.20†	- 3.40	1.00
2nd Smaller Cos	199.90	213.60	- 3.40	0.86
Recovery	163.70	174.90†	- 2.30	1.61
Met Min & Cdty	*163.90*	*175.20*	*- 5.50*	*0.18*
Overs Earnings	407.50	435.60†	- 3.40	1.15
Technology	217.40	232.40	+ 2.00	
UK Special Sits	564.00	602.90	- 6.40	1.04
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Colectd Dol Pens	113.10	117.50	- 3.10	3.04
Fowndn Pensl Pens	68.48	71.14	- 1.49	1.44
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 606 0033				
Capital	78.99	84.03†	- 0.23	1.04
International	66.35	70.58†	- 2.64	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	332.60	356.80	+ 1.90	
Bond	115.80	121.90†		6.85
Brit Smlr Cos	117.20	124.70	- 2.50	1.80
Conv & Gen #	70.45	74.95	- 2.38	5.24
Europe	280.50	297.60	+ 2.20	0.58
Euro Smlr Cos	124.90	133.00	+ 0.70	0.80
Income Gwth	366.70	390.10†	- 6.40	4.43
Japan	335.10	356.40	+ 1.50	
Latin American	84.87	90.29†	- 1.81	0.86
Pacific	*117.10*	*124.60*	*+ 0.10*	*1.18*
UK Smlr Cos	59.70	63.51	- 0.94	1.25
Japan Fd	708.70	730.30	+ 4.90	
Mngd Fd	198.30	210.60	- 0.20	2.85
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Overs	354.00	374.40	- 8.50	0.94
Capital Gwth	121.90	128.90	- 3.00	2.57
Wwide Opps	213.60	225.90	- 5.20	0.92
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Fd Inc	407.10	424.00	- 1.50	2.53
European Bd Inc	94.92	98.254	+ 0.82	6.78
Exempt	78.97	84.19	- 0.51	3.02
Financial	94.81	101.40	- 0.80	2.77
500	504.80	551.30	-10.30	2.42
General	313.00	335.30	- 1.30	2.63
Property	240.60	258.10	- 0.40	5.56
Trustee	214.90	229.60†	- 1.60	2.42
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.20	100.20†	+ 0.10	4.98
Distribution Inc #	110.10	110.70†	- 0.60	6.34
Extra Income #	132.00	141.10	- 1.20	4.94
Gilt & Fxd Int	*57.85*	*59.89*	*- 0.06*	*8.01*
Income #	562.20	601.30†	-16.80	4.89
Income Pofolio #	67.62	72.13	- 0.52	5.53
Intl Income	68.88	73.27†	+ 0.25	2.68
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	136.30	145.40	- 1.40	2.20
Leisure	171.89	183.70	- 6.90	0.70
Recovery	475.20	508.20	- 2.40	2.83
Smllr Cos Inc	*58.37*	*62.60*	*- 0.96*	*2.03*
Special Sits	374.80	400.60	- 9.60	0.89
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	164.90	175.20		0.67
Aust Acc	275.80	294.20	+ 0.60	1.94
Aust Inc	164.90	175.90†	+ 0.30	1.94
Euro Gwth Inc	190.60	202.50	+ 2.00	0.55
-do- Accum	205.90	218.70	+ 2.20	0.55
Japan & Gen Inc	156.90	166.10	+ 1.30	
-do- Accum	158.70	168.00	+ 1.20	
Japan Spec Sits	73.93	78.32	+ 0.76	
Worldwide	*196.10*	*208.20†*	*+ 0.30*	*0.47*
BARING FUND MANGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	*122.60*	*130.40*	*+ 2.10*	
Amer Smlr Cos	156.40	167.20	- 0.40	
Convertibles	59.59	63.86†	- 0.42	4.90
Eastern	303.80	327.00	- 0.70	0.30
Equity Income	*94.37*	*100.60*	*- 0.80*	*3.90*
European Growth	362.80	385.80	- 2.10	0.80
Europe	351.60	375.80	- 1.20	1.60
German Growth	89.22	94.56	+ 0.49	0.50
Global Bond	69.75	73.37†	- 1.33	6.50
Global Growth	144.80	154.00	+ 0.80	0.40
Japan Growth	204.50	218.10	+ 1.50	
Japan Smlrcos	174.60	185.90	+ 1.20	
Korea Trust	72.20	78.38	+ 0.16	
Portfolio	142.70	152.70	- 0.40	2.30
-do- Accum	267.00	286.90	- 0.70	2.30
UK Growth	98.60	106.00†	- 0.30	2.60
UK Smaller Cos	95.35	103.60	- 2.50	2.50
Select Managers	87.54	93.94	- 0.53	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	89.33	95.03†	- 0.14	
Special Oppor Inc	59.56	63.36		
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	137.12	145.10	+ 0.42	1.38
-do- Accum	158.00	167.20	+ 0.48	1.38
Smaller Cos	151.17	159.90	- 4.18	0.48
Higher Yield #	54.47	57.64†	- 0.66	3.83
American Gth Inc	94.56	100.06	+ 2.51	
European Growth	164.86	174.45	+ 3.06	
-do- Accum	168.17	177.96	+ 3.12	
Global Bond Inc #	26.41	27.35	+ 0.48	6.32
Mngd Pfolio Inc	52.15	55.16	- 0.06	1.34
-do- Accum	53.74	56.85	- 0.06	1.34
Intl Spec Opps	161.17	170.55	- 2.82	
Pacific Gth	147.13	155.70	- 3.03	
UK General #	*90.03*	*95.27†*	*- 2.63*	*2.77*
-do- Accum #	*96.37*	*101.98*	*- 2.82*	*2.77*
Japan	61.99	65.59†	+ 0.64	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	99.40	103.00	- 0.15	8.64
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	65.93	66.77	+ 0.06	6.55
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Europe	184.20	193.90†	- 2.50	1.92
UK Growth	203.00	213.70	- 2.10	2.11
UK Income	142.70	150.20	- 0.80	4.59
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 622 100				
Can Gen Dist	225.40	238.90	- 2.40	1.66
-do- Income Dist	*120.20*	*127.40*	*- 0.70*	*3.92*
-do- Accum	385.80	409.00	- 0.70	3.92
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.25	43.34	+ 0.18	6.26
Growth Units	240.90	257.50	+ 0.40	2.14
Bond	*175.70*	*185.00*	*- 0.70*	*7.20*
Intl Growth	247.30	263.10		0.20
North American	245.60	261.60†	+ 0.90	0.25
Far East	307.50	328.90†	- 1.00	0.72
UK Smaller Cos	*222.20*	*237.70*	*- 3.20*	*0.94*
European	97.58	103.40†	+ 1.20	0.70
Japanese Growth	49.23	52.24	+ 0.17	
High Income	209.80	224.30	- 0.20	4.44
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	214.00	226.60	+ 0.40	
European Inc	94.70	100.39	+ 1.20	0.52
Smaller Cos (4-1)	106.00	112.30	- 1.90	1.48
Growth	*521.80*	*555.20*	*- 5.10*	*1.72*
Income & Growth #	435.60	463.50†	-10.30	4.10
-do- Accum #	658.40	700.50	+ 0.20	4.10
Japan & Gen	71.80	76.07	+ 1.14	
Master Portfolio	£114.80	£118.55†	-13.00	2.04
-do- Accum	£141.18	£145.80	-15.00	2.04
Special Sits	120.30	128.00†	- 1.40	1.77
High Yield	*£14.34*	*£14.69*		*4.46*

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	98.89	105.43†	- 0.30	2.42
American Portfolio	117.05	124.35	- 0.69	0.91
European Portfolio	132.56	141.40	+ 1.25	0.63
High Income	*51.39*	*51.51*	*- 0.03*	*7.40*
Japanese Portfolio	71.32	75.79†	+ 0.47	
Pacific Portfolio	156.25	168.02	+ 0.89	1.42
UK Equity	94.72	101.12	- 0.60	3.13
UK Equity & Bd	*56.02*	*59.37*	*+ 0.09*	*6.44*
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	*732.17*	*744.25*	*- 5.09*	*4.42*
Fxd Int Sec	153.93	154.55	+ 0.61	9.25
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	717.63	728.47	-13.94	4.57
Investment Acc	532.70	533.30	-63.69	
Fixed Int Inc	124.47	124.97	- 0.06	9.28
Fixed Int Acc	*221.72*	*222.60*	*- 0.12*	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Bedminster Intl	*87.64*	*92.64*	*+ 1.50*	*3.21*
Beck Bio-Tech	41.24	44.66†	- 2.23	
Accum Ethical Tst	184.51	193.75†	- 0.21	0.45
City Fin Assets	78.86	82.81	- 2.57	1.58
City Fin America	107.04	112.40	- 8.35	
City Fin Intl	89.99	94.50	- 3.75	0.47
City Fin Japan	151.91	159.52	- 2.48	
Friars Hse Cap	307.61	327.24†	- 2.83	2.28
Friars Hse Inc	198.68	209.23	- 0.01	3.67
Buckley Wrld Gth	140.17	148.58	- 9.92	
J Sid Inc/Gth Inc	53.47	56.15†	- 3.25	3.42
Stan Utilities	56.82	68.90	+ 0.05	5.98
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	57.98	61.52	- 0.54	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	77.24	82.17	- 0.59	
Dragon Growth	73.08	78.16	+ 0.24	0.35
Equity High Inc	86.88	93.04	+ 0.26	4.36
-do- Accum	123.61	132.37	+ 0.36	4.36
Extra Income Inc	26.05	27.43†	- 0.02	7.62
Extra Income Acc	28.23	29.72	- 0.03	7.62
European Gwth	82.82	86.65	+ 0.93	0.89
Evergreen	32.60	34.86	- 0.18	
General Equity	98.97	105.01	- 0.37	3.14
Japan Growth	53.71	57.14	+ 0.36	...
Pedigree Gwth	61.79	65.73	- 0.61	2.47
Ped Sm Cos Inc	37.52	39.91	- 0.55	1.48
-do- Accum	39.74	42.28	- 0.59	1.48
Retirement Inc #	38.96	38.68	+ 0.10	6.07
Special Sits	46.13	49.07	- 0.77	2.35
UK & Overseas	58.37	61.93	+ 0.36	0.74
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	67.34	70.14	+ 0.29	4.09
Capital	79.96	83.39	- 0.07	2.35
High Income	50.92	53.04†	- 0.09	7.15
Top 50	53.88	56.81	+ 0.05	2.18
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	187.31	195.11	- 2.34	4.71
Long Gilt	42.06	43.76†	- 0.05	8.43
Monthly Inc Plus	*48.82*	*50.85*	*- 0.07*	*8.81*
Preference Share	47.30	49.27†	+ 0.01	8.09
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	134.25	139.84†	- 1.47	6.10
Managed Fund	*76.34*	*79.52*	*- 0.04*	*2.70*
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	50.26	52.35	- 1.12	1.81
-do- Accum	59.41	61.89	- 1.32	1.81
UK & General	93.76	97.67	- 1.14	2.64
-do- Accum	121.61	126.68	- 1.48	2.64
UK Growth	184.44	192.12	- 1.61	1.46
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	214.51	223.45	+ 3.85	0.65
Far Eastern Gwth	140.57	146.43	- 0.92	0.02
Global Bond	82.41	85.84	+ 1.47	5.77
Japan Growth	117.51	122.41	+ 1.23	
North Amer Gth	228.12	237.63	+ 0.55	
Oriental Growth	84.58	88.10	- 0.04	0.26
Worldwide Growth	74.52	77.63	+ 0.35	0.10
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.62	92.62	+ 0.08	5.19
Homemaker Fund	90.00	95.74	- 0.56	1.58
Quilter Fund	150.54	160.15	- 0.33	1.95
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	35.27	37.72	- 0.87	3.29
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	173.90	185.00	- 3.40	1.88
Income	70.25	74.73	- 0.14	4.84
European	74.57	79.33	+ 0.16	0.74
Recovery	182.20	193.80	- 3.60	1.81
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9484				
Equity Dist	939.20	954.20	+ 5.90	3.53
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 379				
Fellowship Tst	107.80	114.60	- 2.60	1.13
Income #	278.38	296.08	- 2.40	4.27
-do- Accum #	728.50	774.90	- 6.20	4.27
Smaller Cos	228.10	242.60†	- 5.70	0.89
-do- Accum	283.20	301.20†	- 7.10	0.89
Gth Portfolio	99.56	105.90	- 0.80	1.61
High Inc Port #	80.53	85.67	- 0.84	4.44
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Euro Small Cos	1697.30	1763.50	+ 5.50	
Japan Small Cos	1334.80	1381.80	+11.70	
UK Small Cos	2140.20	2227.50	-67.80	2.77
US Small Cos	2068.10	2115.50	-63.80	0.98
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	227.20	239.20	- 4.30	3.07
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	161.40	171.60†	- 1.70	1.88
UK High Inc Inc	169.40	180.20	- 1.20	3.79
-do- Accum	228.60	243.30	- 1.70	3.79
UK Pref & F I Inc	58.07	61.60†	- 0.02	6
Environmtl Opps	*96.62*	*103.00*	*- 1.50*	*0.97*
UK Smlr Cos #	66.44	70.68	- 2.25	0.80
Extra Income Inc	48.83	51.94	+ 0.04	8.13
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 690 529				
American	171.90	182.00	- 0.60	0.44
Convertibles #	22.15	23.53†	- 0.23	5.95
Equity Income #	138.40	147.00†	- 0.50	4.08
EuroFund	63.19	66.87	+ 0.28	0.60
Financial	53.49	56.83	- 0.37	1.58
Growth & Inc #	280.30	297.80	- 1.90	2.94
High Dist #	173.20	184.00	- 1.00	4.29
International	442.60	470.30†	- 3.10	0.11
Int Cap Inc	104.10	111.10†	- 0.20	2.43
Latin American	32.52	34.55	- 0.36	
Pacific	85.88	91.25	- 0.21	
Pref High Inc	21.65	23.00†	+ 0.01	7.83
Tokyo	236.20	250.50	+ 1.00	
UK Smaller Cos	256.50	272.50	- 5.90	1.10
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
European Gwth	334.70	353.70	+ 3.30	1.02
New Asia	240.80	256.70	+ 1.80	0.22
Japan Growth	116.00	123.40	+ 0.70	
Jap Smlr Co	493.50	525.80	+ 4.80	
Nth Amer	400.90	424.40†	+ 4.30	0.69
UK Inc & Gth	239.90	256.80	- 0.59	2.89
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BRI Director Dlgs.	115.36	123.38	+ 0.35	1.30
Growth Acc	251.10	267.99		0.39
Income	584.36	624.98	-16.85	0.21
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	222.40	236.60	- 4.30	0.94
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	91.27	96.07†	- 0.02	2.01
Ethical Tst	47.41	49.90	- 0.03	0.82
Far Eastern	314.64	331.20†	+ 0.59	1.42
High Income	134.05	141.11	- 0.48	5.09
UK Index Trcking	48.53	51.08	- 0.02	3.31
Intl Growth	145.64	153.31	- 1.48	0.33
North American	*142.62*	*150.11*	*- 0.12*	*1.73*
Pelican	134.88	141.56	- 0.60	3.36
Smaller Cos	71.29	75.04†	- 0.16	2.99
Special Sits	92.27	97.13	1.98	2.59
Tst of Inv Tsts	*210.17*	*221.23*	*- 3.39*	*1.22*
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	233.45	248.35	- 2.04	1.50
Smaller Cos Acc	416.03	442.59	- 3.63	1.50
Recovery	58.58	62.32	- 0.73	1.71
Recovery Acc	60.53	64.39	- 0.76	1.71
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	86.52	91.71	- 1.72	
Fd of Inv Tsts	50.52	53.89†	- 0.87	0.54
High Income #	37.03	39.60†	- 0.49	11.59
Warrant	48.32	52.52	- 1.67	
Zero Preference	42.58	45.18†	- 0.07	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 707				
Family Accal Tst	88.27	93.89†	0.90	3.08
United Charities	304.00	323.30	- 1.80	2.21
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree Private Clients 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.30
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	*27.68*	*27.76†*	*- 0.07*	*7.20*
Intl Bond	29.79	30.57	+ 0.53	5.13
Income Funds				
High Income	25.62	27.11†	- 0.09	5.68
Income Plus	*125.40*	*133.40*	*- 0.50*	*4.12*
Amer Eq Inc	60.90	64.56	+ 0.25	0.29
European Income	49.79	52.91	+ 0.42	2.57
Far East Inc	66.92	71.29	+ 0.49	0.80
Global Convertible	*25.29*	*26.94*	*- 0.16*	*2.59*
UK Div Gth	30.04	31.95	- 0.32	2.34
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	67.74	72.26	- 0.91	
American	*305.40*	*324.20*	*+ 1.80*	*0.13*
Amer Spec Sits	176.50	188.70	2.10	
Japan Smaller Cos	38.45	41.01	+ 0.37	
European	224.60	238.90	+ 0.10	0.57
European Opps	*80.29*	*85.36*	*+ 0.77*	*0.02*
Global Pth	30.56	32.50	- 0.05	0.35
UK Growth	117.50	125.00	- 2.20	1.14
Growth & Inc	168.70	179.40†	- 1.70	2.90
Intl PEP	*46.04*	*48.96†*	*- 0.01*	*1.12*
Japan Spec Sits	96.49	102.60	+ 1.30	
Japan	188.90	200.60	+ 1.20	
Managed Intl	342.10	363.10	+ 3.20	0.51
Moneybuilder	*66.07*	*70.25†*	*0.62*	
Recovery	60.02	63.62	- 1.46	1.69
South E Asia	180.80	192.90	+ 1.00	1.01
Special Sits	706.20	750.90	-12.10	0.61
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	115.04	115.04	+ 0.02	5.30
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	146.70	149.40	- 4.50	1.78
Inc Pfolio #	91.47	93.05	- 0.32	2.95
Cap Pfolio	160.30	162.90	- 0.10	0.99
General Opps	136.30	137.90	- 3.30	3.88
Growth Inc	36.41	37.13	- 0.04	0.99
Private Portfolio	*467.70*	*476.70*	*-23.70*	*1.13*
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGMT				
Dlg 01277 690 396 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smllr Cos	152.60	162.40	+ 0.90	0.31
Emrg Asian	154.50	167.00	- 1.60	
High Income	21.20	22.53†	- 0.21	9.99
UK Income	108.70	115.90	- 0.50	4.31
US Smaller Cos	415.70	443.10	- 4.90	

For Fourn & Braithwaite see Unifin

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	76.46	81.39	+ 1.51	
-do- Accum	76.46	81.39	+ 1.51	
Amer Smlr Cos	658.10	701.70	+ 3.80	
-do- Accum	670.30	716.90	+ 4.00	
Capital Tst	379.80	404.00	- 9.00	1.50
-do- Accum	554.80	590.20	-13.00	1.50
Conti Smlr Cos	62.84	66.95†	+ 0.65	0.42
-do- Accum	66.85	71.24†	+ 0.71	0.42
Convertible	139.20	148.10†	- 0.80	5.86
-do- Accum	301.40	320.60†	- 1.90	5.86
Emerging Markets	71.09	75.95	- 0.79	0.30
-do- Accum	71.32	76.20	- 0.80	0.30
European	150.90	160.00	+ 2.30	0.90
-do- Accum	159.98	169.50	+ 2.50	0.90
Extra Income	369.98	393.50†	-10.80	4.10
-do- Accum	588.80	626.40†	- 3.09	4.10
Financial	163.30	173.70	+ 0.70	0.46
-do- Accum	173.50	184.60	+ 0.80	0.46
Gilt Trust	64.18	65.17	+ 0.02	6.79
-do- Accum	97.20	100.20	+ 0.10	6.79
Health Fund Inc	260.50	278.30	+ 6.90	..
-do- Accum	260.50	278.30	+ 6.90	
Income & Growth	221.20	235.30	- 0.40	3.61
-do- Accum	350.40	372.80	- 0.70	3.61
Intl Growth	440.20	468.10	+ 5.90	
-do- Accum	488.80	521.00	+ 6.70	
Japan & Gen	182.70	194.10	+ 2.20	
-do- Accum	*184.60*	*196.00*	*+ 2.10*	
Monthly Inc #	188.80	200.80†	- 1.20	4.38
Managed Port Inc	117.90	124.10		1.44
-do- Accum	128.10	134.80		1.44
Quarterly Income #	56.98	60.18	0.37	4.91
-do- Accum #	63.28	68.02	- 0.41	4.91
Recovery	365.30	390.80†	- 2.90	0.23
-do- Accum	431.10	461.10†	- 3.40	0.23
UK Growth	63.32	67.36	+ 0.16	2.76
-do- Accum	68.66	73.04	+ 0.17	2.76
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715836 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	59.12	62.89	+ 0.47	0.35
FP Am Smlr Cos	199.00	212.80	- 0.10	
FP Asian Growth	*285.20*	*305.00†*	*- 0.10*	
FP Australian	396.00	424.80	+ 1.20	
FP Equity Dist	434.80	461.70	- 4.40	2.52
-do- Accum	957.00	1018.00	-10.80	2.52
FP Euro Gth	*281.90*	*299.80*	*+ 2.00*	
-do- Accum	308.30	327.90	+ 2.10	
FP Intl Bond	60.51	64.03	+ 1.09	4.44
FP Intl Gth Dist	38.33	40.80	+ 0.11	0.12
-do- Accum	*55.81*	*59.56*	*+ 0.16*	*0.12*
FP Pac Basin Acc	225.30	240.80	+ 0.40	
FP Income #	56.63	60.40†	- 0.24	5.15
-do- Accum #	197.90	211.00	- 0.80	5.15
FP Jap Smlr Cos	328.20	350.00	+ 0.70	
FP Monthly Dist #	74.16	79.14†	- 0.28	5.78
FP Stlg Deposit	100.20	100.20†	+ 0.10	5.05
FP Tokyo	86.02	91.75	+ 0.33	..
FP UK Focus	40.86	43.63	- 0.28	2.35
FP UK Growth	188.80	201.30†	- 0.60	2.39
-do- Accum	380.50	405.80	- 1.20	2.39
Stewardship Dist	410.30	436.40	-10.40	1.51
-do- Accum	514.30	547.10	-13.10	1.51
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	80.42	85.55	- 1.80	4.84
-do- Accum #	108.90	115.80	- 2.20	4.84
N Am Stshp Dist	*120.70*	*128.40†*	*+ 1.50*	*0.43*
-do- Accum	129.80	138.00	+ 1.70	0.43
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	124.50	132.40	- 2.10	1.65
Open Cap Gth Acc	128.80	137.00	- 2.60	0.17
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	117.00	124.40	- 2.10	2.97
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	122.40	130.30	- 2.20	2.97
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	118.80	126.30	- 2.10	3.51
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	125.00	132.90	- 2.20	3.51
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
CANDA	276.50	292.40	- 3.80	2.11
Cash	49.68	50.42	+ 0.04	5.28
Growth Portfolio	88.34	93.64	- 0.35	0.88
Income Portfolio	*68.96*	*72.93*	*+ 0.29*	*4.22*
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
0171 238 6441				
Special Sits	222.30	237.60†	- 1.90	1.11
Dividend	94.81	101.40	- 0.10	4.89
Int Gth & Inc	239.90	256.60†	- 2.30	3.71
UK & Gen	48.66	52.04	- 0.56	2.79
Fund of Funds	75.23	80.46	- 1.45	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	241.40	258.20	- 0.80	0.13
European Gth	735.20	786.30	+19.20	0.61
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	54.76	58.15	+ 0.91	4.89
-do- Accum	*80.77*	*84.53*	*+ 1.07*	*4.89*
Far East & Gen	271.90	290.80	+ 0.10	
German Growth	145.50	154.10	+ 2.00	
High Yield #	48.92	51.70	- 0.38	8.10
-do- Accum #	53.17	56.19	- 0.20	8.07
Income Inc	190.90	204.20	- 2.10	4.18
-do- Accum	214.40	229.40	- 2.40	4.18
International	394.10	420.50	- 0.10	0.29
Intl Income	93.93	99.44	+ 1.05	2.98
Japan Growth	455.60	483.50	- 1.00	
Korean Securities	60.48	64.69	+ 0.94	
Orient Acc	*187.80*	*200.90*	*+ 1.30*	*0.17*
UK General Inc	193.80	207.30	- 2.80	0.91
UK General Acc	343.00	366.90	- 4.90	0.91
UK Smlr Cos Inc	52.75	56.42		1.72
-do- Accum	*57.26*	*61.24*	*- 1.45*	*1.80*
UK Spec Sits	101.10	108.20	- 3.40	1.20
US Growth	183.40	194.60	- 0.80	
Wwide Spec Sits	160.90	171.30†	+ 0.70	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	58.01	61.96	+ 0.05	1.84
Cash Trust	145.11	145.11†	+ 0.11	5.21
Practical Inv Inc #	120.19	128.55	- 1.88	3.74
-do- Accum #	*283.44*	*303.14*	*- 4.39*	*3.74*
UK Index	173.08	173.95	- 0.25	3.41
UK Smaller Cos	187.06	200.06	- 0.06	0.58
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	24.16	25.04†	- 0.40	7.91
High Income	33.85	36.10	- 0.02	5.24
UK Equity Income	151.75	162.37	- 1.33	3.12
Global Bond	29.95	31.04†	+ 0.42	5.15
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	47.96	51.29	- 0.28	..
Global Managed	151.58	161.10	+ 1.72	1.30
Gold & Intl Res	*115.82*	*123.66†*	*- 5.48*	
Global Utilities	144.31	153.90†	+ 0.25	1.27
Overseas Funds				
American	196.58	208.87†	+ 4.85	1.05
European	134.01	142.02	+ 1.27	0.82
Euro Sel Opps	205.14	217.87	+ 2.58	
Amer Emerging	171.50	183.42	+ 1.59	
Hong Kong	159.13	170.10	+ 0.98	1.62
Japan	251.17	266.90†	+ 1.85	..
Pacific Growth	231.48	247.57†	+ 2.77	..
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	*252.67*	*252.67†*	*- 0.59*	*2.01*
Long Term Bal	272.22	272.22†	+ 0.40	2.78
Med Term Bal	224.08	224.08†	+ 2.05	3.03
UK Equity	291.52	291.52	- 0.29	2.55
UK Emerging Cos	173.76	173.76†	- 3.62	1.92
American	312.69	312.69	+ 4.93	0.98
Japan	138.67	138.67	+ 0.63	
European	343.46	343.46	+ 3.53	0.95
Index Linked Gilt	181.00	181.00†	- 0.02	2.71
Fixed Interest	171.81	171.81	- 0.14	6.53
Amer Emerging	388.70	388.70	+ 6.68	
Pacific	245.40	245.40†	- 0.12	0.82
Emerging Mkts	130.50	130.50	- 0.56	0.41
Index Strat Japan	153.28	153.28†	+ 1.46	0.10
-do- Pacific Rim	207.56	207.56†	+ 0.85	1.24
-do- Conf Europe	*188.14*	*188.14†*	*+ 1.99*	*1.12*
Index Strat USA	181.30	181.30†	+ 0.79	1.75
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	118.99	126.56	- 0.30	
Med Term Bal	*106.70*	*113.51*	*- 0.07*	
Long Term Bal	122.36	130.17	+ 0.19	
UK Equity	135.27	143.90	- 0.15	
UK Emerging Cos	81.40	86.59	- 1.90	
American	144.66	153.89	+ 2.43	
Japan	66.24	70.46	+ 0.32	
European	142.48	151.57	+ 1.56	
Fixed Interest	88.16	93.79	- 0.17	
Index Linked Gilt	80.46	85.58	- 0.01	
Deposit	86.79	92.32	+ 0.06	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	*159.51*	*167.91*	*- 2.67*	*0.51*
Brckld Gth Port Inc	72.43	76.44	- 1.51	0.60
-do- Inc Prtl Inc	60.35	63.70†	- 1.75	3.50
-do- Wwide Port	62.17	65.61†	- 0.77	0.10
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	593.65	631.54	-18.58	1.46
-do- Accum	670.41	713.20	-20.53	1.46
European Inc	178.18	189.05	+ 0.12	1.77
Amalgam Inc	160.43	170.73	- 2.01	0.34
N America Inc	402.40	428.09	- 10.33	
Far East Inc	[illegible]	421.18		0.10
-do- Accum	400.32	425.51		0.10
UK David Inc	261.73	275.24	- 5.19	1.82
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
UK Equity Inc #	98.57	105.13†	- 1.21	4.56
UK Small Cos	65.63	70.19	- 2.68	0.62
British Growth	65.64	70.20†	- 0.60	3.11
American Gwth	274.55	295.63	- 4.64	
Japan Gwth	73.76	79.24	+ 0.83	
Greater China	200.16	214.07	+ 1.39	0.16
Pacific Strategy	165.97	177.79	- 1.71	
European Gwth	116.27	124.34	- 0.37	
Intl Growth	169.76	180.48	- 1.60	
US Index (£)	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.02	4.00
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	30.29	36.56	- 1.62	2.15
Monthly Income	40.78	43.64†	- 0.23	8.79
Index & Bear Funds Dealing: 0171 755 7033				
Gtd UK Index (£)	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.06	4.75
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 488 1212				
Small Cos	108.79	115.70	- 6.42	1.57
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 8668				
European	580.70	620.30†	+ 5.80	0.34
Gilt & Fixed	121.16	127.03	+ 0.20	5.77
Growth Equity	413.40	441.60	- 1.20	1.22
Income Trust	142.60	152.30†	- 1.00	4.52
International	211.90	225.30	+ 1.80	
Japan Trust	130.63	139.70†	+ 0.70	
Nth American	252.50	270.70	+ 3.70	
Pacific	537.50	638.70	+ 2.00	
Guardhill	622.40	664.90	- 8.40	1.34
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	109.57	113.72	+ 1.95	4.94
Global High Inc	102.48	105.38	+ 1.34	5.92
Corporate Bond	103.29	107.22	- 0.13	7.13
Eqty & Bond Inc	*106.26*	*112.97†*	*- 0.23*	*5.56*
European Growth	126.53	134.55	+ 1.35	
Intl PEP Trust	70.00	74.45	+ 0.50	
Equity Inc	131.50	139.82	+ 1.16	4.25
-do- Accum	191.10	202.20	+ 1.69	4.25
Recovery	384.40	408.70	- 5.90	2.04
-do- Accum	454.40	483.10	- 7.20	2.04
St Vinc High Inc	173.95	125.80	- 3.86	7.76
UK Emrg Cos	*311.87*	*331.50*	*+11.10*	*2.31*
UK Smlr Cos	424.00	431.50†	- 2.40	2.46
Glob Pro Tst	115.27	122.56	0.28	1.72
-do- Accum	117.76	125.21	- 0.27	1.72
Inc Share Tst	*86.27*	*90.67*	*- 1.27*	*9.63*
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0171 220 5050 01904 611110				
Balanced Inc	*54.07*	*57.35†*	*- 0.10*	*3.83*
Balanced Acc	57.60	60.95	- 0.10	3.83
Growth	32.04	33.97	- 0.16	1.98
Growth Acc	32.74	34.71	- 0.17	1.98
Income	*30.81*	*32.46†*	*0.08*	*4.34*
Income Acc	32.40	34.35	- 0.09	4.34
Accumulation Tst	24.33	26.35	- 0.06	3.11
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
High Provider	99.59	103.00†	0.10	6.45
Model Pfolio	233.30	245.10	- 2.60	2.38
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT				
Enquiries: 0645 494949 Dealing: 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	335.67	350.78	- 4.99	0.95
Best of British	70.58	75.02	- 0.20	2.45
UK Smaller Cos	152.46	163.89	- 3.67	1.21
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	*295.74*	*314.41†*	*7.17*	*3.48*
-do- Accum #	832.30	896.36	- 6.11	3.48
High Income	329.94	352.70†	- 5.72	4.74
Extra Income #	283.67	301.68†	- 0.68	5.89
Pref & Bond	47.77	49.57†	- 0.84	8.30
International				
Ethical	171.28	179.11	- 1.85	2.03
International	*325.85*	*348.23*	*+ 1.75*	
Global Bond	56.37	59.33†	+ 0.61	5.09
Intl Port Tst	97.96	104.77†	- 1.76	0.32
Global Tech	*227.25*	*244.67*	*+ 1.51*	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	197.78	211.48†	- 1.71	0.17
European	619.00	656.26	+ 5.26	1.55
European Income #	91.07	98.56	+ 1.05	3.13

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Euro Smlr Cos	190.57	204.20	- 0.20	2.08
European Value	95.36	101.76	+ 0.98	1.24
-do- Accum	102.59	109.48	+ 1.06	1.24
Japan Trust	239.61	254.89†	+ 0.94	
Japan Smlr Cos	253.15	269.77	+ 1.19	
Pacific Smlr Cos	253.68	270.07	+ 0.71	
North American	304.45	323.27†	+ 3.78	
American Smaller	173.76	185.85	+ 1.89	
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	154.60	162.80	- 1.60	5.07
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	117.53	123.07	- 0.25	2.12
Capital	200.50	209.94	- 0.97	1.30
Dollar	484.97	507.82	+ 6.39	
Enterprise Gth	422.63	442.75	- 7.97	1.40
European	281.52	294.79†	+ 2.46	0.38
Far East	329.30	344.91	+ 2.82	...
Financial	981.40	1010.27	+ 4.16	1.98
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	25.86	26.89†	- 0.43	6.92
High Yield	106.22	111.23	+ 0.47	3.98
Income & Growth	155.85	163.19	+ 0.15	3.33
International	*299.44*	*313.54†*	*+ 1.89*	*0.15*
Japanese General	225.98	236.63	+ 0.73	
Japan Tech	97.03	101.60	- 1.44	
Nat Resources	87.60	91.73	- 1.04	0.15
Portfolio	*85.46*	*89.49*	*- 0.21*	*1.30*
Special Sits	200.21	209.64	- 4.73	0.23
UK Emerging Cos	127.00	132.98	- 2.32	0.74
US Smaller Cos	152.86	160.16†	+ 1.10	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 880 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	608.60	644.20†	-15.80	5.18
Capital	694.20	740.90	- 5.00	2.43
High Income #	110.80	118.30†	- 0.30	6.09
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	586.20	631.40	+ 3.38	0.36
European Gwth	146.00	155.30	+ 1.50	0.01
Japan Gwth	290.10	309.30	+ 1.50	
Japan Smlr Cos	38.02	40.58	+ 0.60	
Asian	64.62	68.97	+ 0.08	0.10
Stag & Malay Gwth	87.33	93.20	- 0.36	
Hong Kong Gwth	134.80	143.90	+ 2.50	1.11
Global Bond	*22.42*	*23.67†*	*+ 0.32*	*5.31*
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	159.80	160.60†	- 0.10	3.65
Irish Index	125.80	129.10	- 2.80	2.10
THE FOOTSIE FUND	*61.78*	*62.09†*	*+ 0.29*	*3.07*
Index Funds-International				
American Index	272.50	273.90	+ 3.10	1.09
Eurotrack 100	196.80	197.80	+ 2.10	1.33
Japan Index	*81.71*	*82.12*	*+ 0.72*	*0.07*
Tiger Index	214.10	215.20	+ 0.20	0.42
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	47.49	49.37	- 1.30	0.40
General Funds				
Managed Dist	88.43	91.92†	+ 0.52	1.15
Managed	90.85	94.44†	+ 0.53	1.15
Repeat Child Fnd	97.93	101.80†	+ 0.40	2.10
UK Growth	68.76	71.48†	+ 0.40	1.77
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	84.40	87.73†	- 2.51	6.64
Gilt & Fixed Int #	26.65	27.50†		9.21
UK Inc & Gwth	*46.14*	*47.96†*		*3.16*
UK Income #	360.00	374.20†	- 1.70	4.68
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	60.46	62.71	+ 1.25	0.11
Amer Smlr Cos	157.70	163.90†	+ 3.70	
-do- Accum	159.40	165.70†	+ 3.80	
Europe Gth	234.00	242.70	- 0.70	
-do- Accum	242.40	251.50	- 0.70	
Euro Smaller Cos	45.63	47.43	- 0.23	
French Growth	98.02	101.90	+ 0.90	0.33
-do- Accum	106.00	110.20	+ 1.10	0.33
H Kong & China	*93.84*	*97.55*	*+ 1.44*	*1.42*
Intl Growth	68.11	70.80	+ 0.54	0.11
-do- Accum	69.05	71.78	+ 0.54	0.11
Japan Gth	33.50	34.82†	+ 0.23	
-do- Accum	33.50	34.82†	+ 0.23	
Japan Smaller Cos	42.75	44.44	+ 0.29	
Glob Emg Mkts	100.30	104.30†	- 0.80	
-do- Accum	101.00	105.00†	- 0.80	
SE Asia	349.80	363.60	+ 0.20	0.16
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	54.30	56.83†	+ 1.00	5.16
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 261010				
Sector Value Inc #	98.12	103.60	- 0.40	3.90
Sector Value Gwth	*89.24*	*104.80*	*- 0.30*	*2.25*
Hy 5 Europe	98.68	103.60†	+ 1.00	2.88
Slater Gwth	149.30	157.60	- 0.90	0.82
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	201.20	214.00	+ 5.30	
Income #	*203.60*	*216.59†*	*- 2.62*	*4.46*
UK Growth	82.41	87.67†	- 0.96	1.95
Intl Growth	90.26	96.01†	- 0.71	0.44
Ecology	100.17	106.55	- 1.99	1.01
European	199.91	212.66†	- 1.34	
Far Eastern	319.30	339.60	+ 4.30	
UK Special Sits	47.09	50.22	- 0.17	

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	99.54	103.00†	- 0.10	7.37
Gilt Yield	117.70	124.20†	+ 0.10	6.62
Global Income	231.40	246.20	+ 0.10	3.62
High Yield	146.70	156.10†	- 1.00	5.74
-do- Accum	*477.30*	*507.80†*	*- 3.60*	*5.74*
Smlr Cos Dir	59.90	63.72	- 1.31	3.37
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	149.10	158.60	+ 0.80	
Asset Growth	*347.50*	*369.70*	*+ 0.70*	*0.22*
-do- Accum	408.40	434.50	+ 0.90	0.22
North American	104.50	111.20		0.74
European Special	124.70	132.70†	0.30	1.25
European	181.00	192.60†	+ 2.10	0.47
-do- Accum	233.50	254.80†	+ 2.70	0.47
Global Eqty Inc	119.46	126.70	+ 0.70	1.61
Japan	429.00	456.30	+ 4.80	
Japanese Special	248.90	264.80	+ 1.80	
Smaller Cos	139.50	149.40	3.00	1.10
UK Equity Growth	48.58	51.68	0.79	1.98
UK Index Inc	322.50	324.10	- 1.30	3.45
Brockham Tst	107.30	116.00		1.98
-do- Accum	108.60	116.60		1.98
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	291.11	310.36	- 0.76	4.90
Inc & Growth Inc	62.27	66.24†	- 0.59	4.12
Smaller Cos	*84.57*	*89.97*	*1.56*	*1.19*
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 01452 371 500 Dlg: 01452 371 633				
Growth Inst	*283.70*	*301.60†*	*- 0.40*	*1.78*
High Income	110.10	117.10†	+ 0.50	4.44
International	115.60	122.90	+ 0.10	0.41
European Inst	89.62	95.42	+ 0.20	0.81
Japanese Inst	43.67	46.55	+ 0.44	
American Inst	113.30	120.50	+ 0.10	
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 690 432				
UK Cap	439.70	456.50	- 4.40	2.79
UK Inc&Gth	480.30	488.40	1.70	3.98
UK Income	334.30	349.10	- 1.40	5.78
UK Sm Cos	301.80	321.90	5.80	1.52
Euro Gwth	164.70	174.70	+ 1.90	0.46
N Amer Gwth	118.90	126.10	+ 2.70	
Japan Growth	67.21	71.37	+ 0.69	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist	561.30	561.30	0.50	2.86
-do- Accum	911.43	911.43	1.00	2.80
Equity Income #	101.00	101.00†	- 0.10	5.09
UK Tactical Allocn	*63.62*	*63.62†*	*+ 0.25*	*4.19*
European	155.10	165.10	- 1.40	1.16
Far Eastern	240.20	240.20	- 1.80	0.04
Fixed Interest	53.38	53.38†	- 0.15	7.44
Gilt	*90.22*	*90.22*	*+ 0.01*	*6.73*
Global Growth	86.49	86.49	+ 0.06	0.45
Intl Bond	55.21	55.21	+ 0.99	5.31
Japanese	77.57	77.57	+ 0.51	
North American	205.70	205.70†	+ 0.60	0.70
Pacific Growth	124.70	124.70	+ 0.10	0.14
UK Index	72.59	73.59	- 0.13	3.30
UK Recovery	113.60	113.00	- 1.30	2.13
UK Smaller Cos	*153.60*	*154.60†*	*- 2.30*	*1.65*
US Index	80.16	90.16†	+ 0.34	1.42
European Index	92.56	92.56	+ 0.94	1.79
Japan Index	47.06	47.06†	+ 0.44	
Worldguide	*96.25*	*96.23*	*- 0.07*	*1.42*
LINCOLN FUND MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 629				
Growth	53.57	57.25†	+ 0.08	2.15
Income	62.53	66.87†	+ 0.47	3.01
Far East	57.78	61.77	+ 0.18	0.07
North American	129.30	138.10	+ 0.20	
Global	*110.70*	*110.30*		*0.18*
European	97.02	103.50	+ 0.20	0.63
Japan	109.40	116.90	+ 1.00	
Intl Currency Bd	61.01	64.70	+ 0.71	4.32
SE Asia	*113.60*	*121.40*	*+ 0.10*	*0.47*
UK Cap Growth	98.32	105.20	- 0.70	1.61
Recovery Trust	89.93	95.56	- 1.53	1.16
Managed	77.46	82.40	0.16	0.59
Cash	*50.69*	*50.69*	*+ 0.04*	*4.46*
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 01634 854 338 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	389.93	414.60	1.80	2.37
-do- Accum	871.70	920.60	- 9.10	2.37
Cont Euro Gth	*80.60*	*85.95*	*- 0.62*	*0.60*
-do- Accum	88.89	92.57	0.72	0.60
Extra Inc	273.50	291.30	+ 2.10	4.27
-do- Accum	749.50	797.40	+ 6.00	4.27
FTSE 100 Inc	*116.50*	*124.80*	*0.30*	*2.76*
FTSE 100 Acc	118.70	126.30	- 0.30	2.76
German Gth	138.90	146.70	+ 3.10	
-do- Accum	145.00	153.30	+ 3.30	
Growth Port	651.60	693.20	-15.90	
-do- Accum	670.90	713.80	-16.20	
High Interest Inc	96.50	100.00†	- 0.20	7.77
High Interest Acc	100.60	104.30	- 0.20	7.77
Hi Reserve Inc #	104.10	110.80	- 0.20	6.43
Hi Reserve Acc #	111.50	118.70	0.10	6.43
Income	532.00	566.00	+ 3.10	3.44
-do- Accum	*£14.98*	*£15.94*	*+ 2.00*	*3.44*
Income Port	544.31	579.10	2.20	4.56
-do- Accum	604.30	642.80	- 2.40	4.56
Japan Growth	112.60	120.00	+ 1.70	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	113.10	120.40	+ 1.80	
Master Trust	66.74	71.01†	- 0.28	1.32
-do- Accum	*77.07*	*81.99*	*- 0.33*	*1.32*
Millennium Acc	93.06	99.01		2.36
N American Gen	236.70	251.80†	+ 2.30	
-do- Accum	273.90	291.40	+ 2.80	
Nthn Sm Co Rec	*196.90*	*209.50*	*+ 2.30*	
-do- Accum	200.99	213.80	+ 2.20	
Pacific Basin	273.30	290.80	+ 1.20	0.18
-do- Accum	291.10	309.70	+ 1.10	0.18
Small Cos Rec	*492.30*	*518.30*	*- 26.10*	*1.70*
-do- Accum	674.60	719.20	-35.90	1.70
UK Eq Gth	158.00	168.10	- 1.60	2.84
UK Eq Inc	123.90	131.90	- 0.80	4.18
UK Growth	100.80	107.30†		2.09
-do- Accum	126.80	134.70	+ 0.10	2.09
Worldwide Gth	361.10	384.20	+ 1.10	
-do- Accum	533.60	567.70	+ 1.50	
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
American	83.92	89.88†	+ 0.55	0.40
General	102.56	108.86	- 2.06	2.80
Income	70.75	75.91	- 0.53	5.46
International	74.29	79.71†	- 0.09	0.40
Japan	61.37	65.84	+ 0.32	
Tst of Inv Trusts	74.55	79.99	- 1.46	1.10
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	506.70	535.40	+ 0.30	0.42
-do- Accum	633.20	669.10	+ 0.40	0.42
Amer Recovery	553.60	585.40	+ 1.40	0.35
-do- Accum	638.60	675.20	+ 1.60	0.35
Amer Smlr Cos	160.60	169.80†	- 0.20	
-do- Accum	164.00	173.50†	- 0.20	
Australasian	200.00	211.50	- 0.30	2.63
-do- Accum	249.30	263.50	- 0.40	2.63
Capital	965.70	1021.20	-12.80	2.98
-do- Accum	1137.90	1203.30	-15.10	2.98
Charifund	730.30	737.70	+ 5.10	6.03
-do- Accum	3684.70	3721.60	+25.50	6.03
Commodity	466.80	493.60	- 7.40	0.44
-do- Accum	688.30	727.90	-10.90	0.44
Compound Gwth	1059.10	1120.00	+ 0.50	3.04
-do- Accum	1156.30	1221.80	+ 0.60	3.04
Corporate Bond	24.85	24.94†	- 0.03	7.70
Dividend	42.60	45.00	- 0.30	4.86
-do- Accum	188.40	199.30	- 1.20	4.86
Equity Income	*341.80*	*360.60*	*- 4.10*	*5.19*
-do- Accum	461.80	488.40	- 5.60	5.19
Euro & General	635.20	671.70†	+ 5.30	0.98
-do- Accum	815.80	862.60†	+ 6.70	0.98
Euro Dividend	81.70	86.40	+ 0.60	3.55
-do- Accum	101.50	107.30	+ 0.70	3.55
Extra Yield	449.30	475.10	+ 3.50	5.16
-do- Accum	1479.80	1564.80	+11.70	5.16
Far Eastern	387.88	410.10	- 3.08	0.92
-do- Accum	517.30	547.10	- 3.90	0.92
Fund of Inv Tsts	677.70	716.70	- 9.70	1.95
-do- Accum	1300.70	1375.60	-18.00	1.95
General	65.80	69.60†	- 0.20	3.97
-do- Accum	193.70	205.10†	- 0.80	3.97
Gilt Income	60.60	60.69	- 0.03	7.20
-do- Accum	180.95	181.21	- 0.09	7.20
Gold	80.80	85.40†	- 2.20	1.66
-do- Accum	96.70	102.20†	- 2.60	1.66
High Income	31.30	33.10†	- 0.10	4.91
-do- Accum	133.70	141.30†	- 0.60	4.91
Intl Growth	91.60	96.90	+ 0.70	0.70
-do- Accum	161.20	170.50	+ 1.10	0.70
International Inc	109.50	115.80	+ 0.80	4.54
-do- Accum	171.40	181.30	+ 1.30	4.54
Japan & Gen	43.40	45.80	+ 0.40	
-do- Accum	46.60	49.20	+ 0.50	
Japan Smlr Cos	159.80	169.00	+ 1.80	
-do- Accum	160.90	170.20	+ 1.70	
Managed Gwth	26.70	28.20†	- 0.40	1.76
Managed Income	29.00	30.50†	- 0.10	4.35
Midland	51.40	54.90	- 1.40	3.41
-do- Accum	212.80	225.30	- 4.80	3.41
Pension Ex	1037.60	1063.60	- 3.40	4.48
Recovery	46.40	49.10†	- 0.70	2.95
-do- Accum	79.80	84.40†	- 1.40	2.95
Second General	72.80	77.00†	- 1.10	3.98
-do- Accum	197.30	208.80†	- 3.10	3.98
Smaller Cos	72.10	76.20	- 2.10	3.30
-do- Accum	147.60	156.10	- 4.30	3.30
Treasury	25.16	25.20†	+ 0.01	5.64
Trustee	42.50	44.90	- 0.20	4.89
-do- Accum	180.60	191.20	- 0.50	4.89
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	100.14	106.53	+ 0.83	1.66
Intl Bond	65.50	68.83	+ 1.23	5.36
Intl Equity Growth	85.96	91.29	+ 0.10	0.84
N Amer Growth	130.13	138.31	+ 0.02	0.76
Special Sits Growth	26.46	28.14	- 0.42	1.90
UK Growth	442.11	470.32	- 4.50	2.60
-do- Accum	589.88	628.17	-16.11	2.60
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1461.10	1493.30	-13.70	2.90
Income #	1004.00	1030.30†	- 4.30	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	*163.20*	*167.10†*		*3.62*

For Manulife see Canada Life

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
M & S Inv Pfolio	173.00	178.30†		2.58
-do- Accum	205.30	211.70†		2.58
UK Sel Pfolio	150.50	155.10†	- 0.90	2.58
-do- Accum	181.40	187.00†	- 1.00	2.58
UK 100 Cos	110.70	110.70	+ 0.10	2.92
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	73.34	78.02	+ 1.22	3.68
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	79.85	84.77†	- 0.22	4.03
European	104.80	111.30	- 0.10	0.63
Income #	79.97	84.89	- 0.74	4.34
Nth American	90.86	96.45†	+ 0.19	0.78
Far East	181.40	192.60†	+ 0.10	0.36
Japan	65.67	69.66	+ 0.22	
Emrgng Mkts	89.69	95.93	0.56	
Intl Growth	129.50	137.50	0.90	0.82
UK Growth	118.90	126.20	- 1.30	2.60
UK Smlr Co	59.58	63.25	1.81	1.07
Asian Opps Fd	38.68	41.37†	- 0.19	0.30
Glob Gwth PEP	61.19	64.95	- 0.35	1.25
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	102.90	109.50	1.30	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Income	447.79	476.37	+ 1.07	4.64
Global Inc	*74.77*	*79.54*	*+ 0.15*	*3.93*
Brit Leaders	384.36	408.89	+ 2.34	3.52
Intl Leaders	228.90	243.51	+ 1.15	1.52
PMU Mg Bal Gth	72.34	75.16	- 1.38	0.63
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	258.80	274.00	+ 2.70	
-do- Accum	277.80	292.90	+ 2.80	
American Opps	129.70	137.80	+ 1.30	
-do- Accum	130.90	139.60	+ 1.40	
British Blue Chip	92.35	98.03	0.47	2.45
-do- Accum	117.50	124.70	- 0.60	2.46
Cash	101.10	101.10		5.61
-do- Accum	147.00	147.00	+ 0.10	5.51
Emerging Mkts	130.10	124.90†	1.50	0.10
-do- Accum	131.50	141.40†	1.50	0.10
European Growth	321.80	341.10	+ 3.40	0.13
-do- Accum	349.20	370.20	+ 3.60	0.13
European Income	*92.67*	*98.21†*	*+ 1.42*	*2.92*
-do- Accum	132.80	140.70†	+ 2.08	2.92
General	581.20	617.70	6.90	2.01
-do- Accum	1182.00	1255.00	-14.00	2.01
Global Bond	*135.30*	*142.00*	*+ 2.00*	*5.92*
-do- Accum	174.20	183.00	+ 2.60	5.92
Gold & General	242.90	260.30†	8.90	0.35
-do- Accum	251.30	269.40†	- 9.10	0.35
Govt Securities	*92.20*	*95.05†*	*+ 0.09*	*6.29*
-do- Accum	193.30	199.30†	+ 0.30	6.22
High Yield Bd	99.33	101.90†	- 0.10	7.38
-do- Accum	104.00	106.70†	- 0.10	7.38
Income	*178.60*	*189.50*	*- 1.10*	*4.18*
-do- Accum	294.10	312.00	- 1.90	4.18
Inc Portfolio #	109.20	115.60†	- 0.50	4.96
-do- Accum #	117.90	124.90†	0.59	4.96
Intl Opps	*572.70*	*610.90†*	*+ 2.90*	*0.15*
-do- Accum	772.80	824.30†	+ 3.90	0.15
Japan	181.00	192.80	+ 0.70	
-do- Accum	185.80	197.90	+ 0.79	
New Europe	*232.30*	*247.80*	*+ 0.90*	*0.81*
-do- Accum	241.60	257.90	+ 0.90	0.81
Pacific	122.10	130.20†	+ 1.00	0.78
-do- Accum	131.30	140.10†	+ 0.90	0.78
Recovery	*418.70*	*445.60*	*4.10*	*0.58*
-do- Accum	549.50	586.10	- 5.30	0.58
UK Smaller Cos	64.85	69.17	1.25	0.74
-do- Accum	74.16	79.10	1.42	0.74
Portfolio	*91.82*	*97.33*	*0.33*	*2.37*
-do- Accum	112.10	118.80	- 0.40	2.37
Managed Gth	118.70	124.20†	- 0.50	1.04
Managed Inc	116.80	121.20†	+ 0.10	2.98
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
01707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	153.06	162.83	+ 1.54	0.15
Portfolio	*77.72*	*82.68†*	*0.28*	*1.45*
UK Income Inc	87.61	93.20	- 0.58	4.67
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	67.39	70.57	+ 0.06	2.71
-do- Accum	73.79	77.26	+ 0.05	2.71
British Tst	101.00	105.80		2.39
-do- Accum	*122.00*	*126.60*		*2.39*
Corp Bond Inc	99.54	103.20	- 0.10	6.87
-do- Accum	100.40	104.00	- 0.10	6.87
Extra High Inc	68.33	71.55†	- 0.07	7.40
-do- Accum	*144.20*	*150.98†*		*7.40*
FT-SE 100 Acc	65.36	68.43†	+ 0.31	3.19
FT-SE 100 Dist	61.65	64.56†	+ 0.29	3.19
Gilt & Fxd Int	55.51	57.78	- 0.01	6.61
-do- Accum	174.80	181.50		6.61
High Yield	228.10	238.80		7.22
-do- Accum	619.70	647.80		7.22
Income	309.30	325.50	+ 0.30	4.98
-do- Accum	709.30	742.70	+ 0.60	4.98
Money Market UT	49.59	49.59	+ 0.06	4.60
-do- Accum	82.25	82.25	+ 0.06	4.60
Monthly Income	*89.52*	*93.74†*	*0.46*	*5.17*
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	145.50	153.50†		1.47
European Growth	131.10	139.00†	- 2.30	0.01

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Gilt & Fixed	96.88	102.80†	+ 0.10	5.40
Income	97.29	103.50†	+ 0.10	2.47
Japan Growth	*54.49*	*57.76†*	*- 0.24*	
Managed	80.85	86.01†	+ 0.08	2.04
Money Market	93.62	99.24†	+ 0.11	4.05
North American	105.40	111.70†	- 3.40	0.40
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	114.10	121.40†		1.46
European Growth	123.20	130.60†	- 2.10	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	91.53	97.08†	+ 0.01	5.41
Income	*95.41*	*101.50†*	*+ 0.10*	*2.53*
Japan Growth	54.20	57.45†	- 0.24	
Managed	77.25	82.18†	+ 0.08	2.02
Money Market	86.33	91.51†	+ 0.09	4.02
North American	95.21	100.90†	3.80	0.48
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	113.40	120.60†		1.46
European Growth	120.50	127.80†	- 2.10	
Gilt & Fixed Int	*83.81*	*88.81†*	*- 0.02*	*5.55*
Income	93.02	98.96†	+ 0.09	2.58
Japan Growth	55.42	58.74†	- 0.25	
Managed	79.35	84.41†	- 0.56	2.05
Money Market	*79.82*	*84.61†*	*+ 0.06*	*4.11*
North American	106.60	113.00†	- 3.40	0.37
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
International (US$)	14.81	15.81	- 0.52	
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	451.00	479.70†	+11.80	
European Gth Inc	596.90	640.50†	+ 5.80	
-do- Accum	603.40	647.50†	+ 5.90	
Intl Gwth	230.00	244.40	+ 2.60	
UK Equity Inc	214.00	227.50	+ 0.20	3.67
Do. Accum	286.90	305.10	+ 0.30	3.67
UK Ind Tech Inc	188.50	199.00	- 0.30	2.53
-do- Accum	237.20	249.50	- 2.70	2.53
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	266.50	282.20	+ 0.50	0.86
Japan Tracker	*77.04*	*81.25*	*+ 0.83*	
Asian Tracker	227.90	245.10	+ 0.10	0.16
Managed Inc	194.80	197.10†	- 0.30	2.00
Managed Acc	201.60	215.10†	- 0.40	2.00
Deposit Inc	*100.10*	*100.10*	*+ 0.08*	*5.26*
Europa	297.90	320.00	+ 1.80	
Genesis	208.10	224.60	- 6.40	2.49
High Income	20.65	21.89†	+ 0.05	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 933				
Acumen	106.80	109.10†	- 0.30	2.12
Acumen Inc	97.80	99.97†	- 0.23	2.12
Acumen Reserve	93.06	93.98†	- 0.08	7.68
-do- Inc	72.67	73.60†	- 0.05	7.68
American Growth	69.48	71.63	+ 0.02	
Equity Income #	108.70	103.40†	- 0.60	4.73
European	82.33	83.87	- 0.17	0.52
Smaller Cos	90.41	94.74	- 2.14	1.13
W'wide Eqty	*77.09*	*79.80*	*- 0.60*	
Global Bond	45.60	46.10	+ 0.87	5.73
UK Growth	109.10	112.00	- 1.08	1.71
Pacific Growth	122.70	125.90	+ 0.50	0.50
Japan Growth	103.80	105.40		
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 610				
Avon Equity	140.77	149.76†	- 0.11	2.40
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
0161 839 8252				
UK Growth	85.24	90.68†	- 1.40	2.45
UK Income	121.01	128.73	+ 0.84	4.32
Higher Income	229.86	244.53†	- 2.32	4.48
Smaller Cos	*106.18*	*112.95*	*+ 1.09*	*1.43*
International	110.28	117.31	+ 0.34	1.32
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
America Dist	128.30	136.50†	- 0.20	0.10
European Dist	148.10	157.60	+ 0.60	0.30
Far East Dist	204.90	218.00	+ 0.70	
Global Care Dist	85.38	90.81†	- 0.34	0.36
Ossic Dist	1199.60	1276.30	+ 2.20	
-do- Accum	1557.00	1656.40	+ 2.90	
UK Dist	407.20	433.20	+ 0.10	2.13
-do- Accum	827.30	880.10	+ 0.20	2.13
UK Extra Inc Dist	92.16	98.04	- 0.56	2.90
Wwde Dist	124.60	132.60	+ 0.30	
Wwde Inc Dist	*88.29*	*93.93*	*- 0.10*	*1.38*
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 01277 690 260 Admin Enq: 01277 690 398				
Europe Inc	77.23	81.54	+ 0.55	0.74
Fund of Funds Inc	68.93	72.75†	+ 0.03	1.79
North America Inc	66.69	70.39	+ 1.05	0.36
UK Equity Gth Inc	66.73	70.45	- 0.36	2.87
-do- Accum	71.83	75.81	- 0.39	2.87
UK General Inc	66.00	69.66	- 0.25	2.93
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	48.22	50.80†	+ 0.10	6.61
UK Income Inc	63.84	67.38	- 0.23	4.30
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0500 550 000 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	52.43	55.77	- 0.27	
-do- Accum	52.83	56.20	- 0.27	
Bond	125.22	132.88†	+ 1.55	5.72
Cash Income	50.37	50.37	+ 0.04	5.29
-do- Accum	68.46	68.46	+ 0.06	5.29
Distribution	99.40	105.74†	- 0.04	3.04
European	55.83	59.39†	+ 0.25	
Foundation	105.38	113.17	+ 0.01	2.80
General Inc	213.42	227.04†	- 1.12	1.50
General Acc	215.55	229.30†	- 1.13	1.50
Global	382.10	406.45	+ 2.08	
Growth Inc	*140.32*	*149.27*	*- 0.39*	*2.50*
Growth Acc	142.23	151.30	- 0.40	2.50
Higher Income Inc	30.49	32.43	+ 0.13	4.90
-do- Accum	36.46	38.78	+ 0.16	4.90
Income	254.05	270.26†	+ 4.01	3.56
Intrepid	145.38	149.35		1.86
Japan	28.65	30.47	+ 0.52	
Oriental Inc	159.96	170.17	+ 0.17	0.73
-do- Accum	165.05	175.56	+ 0.17	0.73
Pers Inl Gwth	36.94	39.29	+ 0.13	
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2565				
High Income #	46.14	48.83†	- 0.19	6.62
Managed	109.70	116.10	- 2.80	2.53
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
01603 682 234				
Master Trust	140.67	148.07	- 0.42	1.03
UK Equity	162.31	170.85	- 0.77	2.92
UK Equity Income	144.92	152.55	- 0.16	3.40
UK Smaller Cos	*132.73*	*139.72†*	*- 4.21*	*1.74*
UK Equity Growth	147.32	155.07	- 1.77	1.09
UK Index Trckg	162.67	171.68	- 1.03	3.53
Intl Index Trckg	171.87	181.18	+ 1.14	1.00
International	*278.76*	*293.43*	*+ 1.50*	*0.75*
European	254.03	267.40	+ 2.86	0.33
Pan European	167.36	176.17	+ 1.62	1.36
Nth American	232.13	244.35	+ 1.19	0.15
N Amer Smlr Cos	239.64	252.25†	+ 1.64	
Japanese	99.89	105.15†	+ 0.94	
Pacific	252.87	266.18†	+ 1.18	0.44
South East Asian	287.88	303.03	+ 0.97	0.63
Intl Bond	136.83	144.03†	- 0.97	4.23
Gilt & Convertible	106.77	112.39†	- 0.09	5.40
Property	81.42	85.70†	- 0.04	5.86
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	365.30	392.90	+ 1.70	0.14
-do- Accum	387.90	417.30	+ 1.80	0.14
Japan Inc	118.00	125.90	+ 0.10	
Nth American Inc	129.70	137.90	+ 2.10	0.85
Worldwide Inc	178.00	191.90	- 0.30	0.15
Hong Kong Inc	168.30	189.80	+ 2.20	1.25
Swiss Equities Inc	91.68	98.10	+ 0.80	
Wwide Bond Inc	*67.74*	*71.67*	*+ 0.92*	*5.46*
Emrgng Asia Inc	211.20	229.80	+ 0.70	
-do- Accum	210.40	229.00	- 1.00	
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.47	50.47	+ 0.04	5.87
Thailand Inc	*167.50*	*176.80*	*- 1.20*	*1.29*
New Zealand Inc	96.05	103.20	- 0.10	3.00
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	70.44	75.45	- 0.37	1.30
Latin Am Cmp Inc	64.91	69.69	- 1.41	
UK All Sh Mtn Inc	67.48	68.57	- 0.07	2.85
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	88.44	94.59	- 1.67	
Global Portfolio	79.25	84.76†	- 2.15	
Global Opps	70.08	74.95	- 1.76	
Marsh Global Gth	68.91	71.01†	- 1.13	
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	101.70	109.09	- 0.10	
Temple Equity Inc	*45.49*	*49.30†*	*0.65*	*4.20*
Hatley Growth	108.90	115.90†	- 0.89	0.38
Intl Growth Inc	89.00	95.28	- 1.64	0.83
IPS Portfolio Inc	92.30	98.72	- 2.68	
Premier Pfolios Inc	*71.10*	*76.04†*	*0.50*	*1.39*
Roxborgh Stral Gth	80.60	86.45	0.57	0.28
International Stral	85.31	91.24	- 1.66	
UFC Intl-Acl Gth	62.45	66.76	1.56	
Chartfield Port of Fds	56.61	60.73†	1.30	
Chartfield Sec	125.30	134.49†	1.40	
Lowes Intl Growth	53.78	56.61	+ 0.74	
PM UT MGRS LTD				
0171 588 3063				
Equity Gth	224.40	241.40	- 8.20	1.24
European Gth	*127.70*	*135.50*	*+ 0.10*	*1.66*
Income & Gth #	154.40	164.30	3.70	2.92
Japan Gth	119.00	127.20	+ 2.60	
Nth Amer Gth	203.50	216.50	- 0.90	
Overseas Gth	*122.30*	*130.10*	*+ 0.70*	*0.06*
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: *01733 470 470*				
Equity	268.00	285.00†	- 0.50	2.62
-do- Accum	586.50	621.80	- 1.10	2.62
Growth	174.80	184.00	- 1.60	2.87
Income	263.30	280.00	- 1.40	3.61
Intl Equity	289.20	307.60	+ 1.10	0.66
-do- Accum	322.00	342.50	+ 1.20	0.66
UK Income	71.50	76.06†	0.45	3.73
UK Intl 25	91.00	96.90	0.01	2.12
New Europe	101.70	108.10	- 0.10	0.10
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	689.12	736.71	+ 1.57	0.52
-do- Accum	691.83	739.60	+ 1.58	0.52
Income	415.66	444.56	- 1.48	3.16
Wwide Recovery	458.49	490.26	+ 2.01	0.54
Amer Growth Inc	305.00	325.33	0.64	0.01
-do- Accum	305.00	325.33	0.64	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	296.97	317.62	+ 0.06	0.03
Far East Gth Inc	313.03	334.80	- 0.59	0.02
-do- Accum	314.17	336.02	0.59	0.02
Euro Gwth Inc	178.53	190.61	+ 2.68	0.31
-do- Accum	179.15	191.27	+ 2.69	0.31
UK Growth Inc	109.93	117.58	0.31	2.68
-do- Accum	118.67	126.78	0.34	2.68
High Income	108.41	115.95†	- 0.41	3.92
Jap Gwth Inc	*222.29*	*237.26*	*+ 3.81*	*0.27*
-do- Accum	222.29	237.26	+ 3.81	0.27
PPT Bond	51.72	53.90	+ 0.03	7.48
PEP Growth	144.44	154.38	+ 0.64	0.89
Asian Sk Mkts Inc	140.88	150.68	+ 0.06	0.16
-do- Accum	141.21	151.03	+ 0.06	0.16
Amer Smlr Co Inc	196.53	210.20	0.59	0.01
-do- Accum	196.53	210.20	0.59	0.01
Global Bond	57.50	60.56	+ 0.71	5.11
UK Smaller Cos Inc	106.57	113.98†	- 1.39	1.48
-do- Accum	113.55	121.45	- 1.48	1.48
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0191 201 3927				
American	133.47	141.99	- 4.72	
European	93.95	99.86	1.37	
Global	70.68	75.19†	- 1.71	
Pacific	64.44	68.55	- 0.77	
UK Inc & Gth	77.87	82.84	2.25	2.05
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Emerg Mkts	51.04	54.01	+ 0.91	0.06
Fund of Funds Inc	*191.88*	*203.05*	*+ 4.22*	*0.51*
Fund of Funds Acc	193.23	204.48	+ 4.24	0.51
High Income #	53.49	56.60	- 0.27	5.74
Performance	46.77	49.75	8.10	
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	168.58	179.35	3.23	1.64
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	116.90	124.30†	2.30	3.70
Conv & Gilt	117.70	124.70	- 1.80	5.44
European Income	89.12	94.81	+ 1.44	2.98
Extra Income	*177.60*	*189.00†*	*1.90*	*4.73*
-do- Accum	229.70	243.90	- 2.56	4.73
Far East	447.80	471.00	+ 0.90	
-do- Accum	452.10	480.90	+ 1.60	
Global Income	28.32	30.13†	- 0.61	5.71
High Income	133.70	142.20	- 1.70	4.52
-do- Accum	164.60	175.40	- 2.10	4.52
International	219.10	233.10	0.70	0.51
-do- Accum	227.08	241.40	0.80	0.51
Pref & Fxd Int	43.20	45.96†	0.71	7.89
Recovery	85.00	90.47	- 1.54	2.30

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Special Sits	143.20	152.40†	- 3.20	1.52
-do- Accum	158.70	168.90	3.60	1.52
Technology	691.70	735.90	+ 4.30	
UK Blue Chip	85.40	90.85	- 0.30	3.19
-do- Accum	98.15	104.40	- 0.30	3.19
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0181 478 3377 Client Enq. 0171 911 4480				
Managed Tst	45.68	47.35	0.01	1.73
Cash Haven Inc	101.57	102.07†	+ 0.07	5.04
Cash Haven Acc	117.94	118.51†	+ 0.08	5.04
Dist Trust Inc	103.76	107.52†	- 0.11	6.45
Dist Trust Acc	116.27	120.39†	- 0.13	6.45
Global Growth	104.91	111.61	+ 0.18	1.42
Equity Inc	88.04	93.66†	1.47	4.67
Equity	847.31	901.39	- 0.70	2.42
European	269.82	279.61†	+ 1.62	0.76
High Income	90.72	96.51†	+ 0.01	5.42
Intl Gwth	270.58	334.66†	+ 0.33	0.73
Intl Sm Co	97.46	103.68	+ 0.08	0.65
Japanese	230.72	239.09	+ 2.48	
Nth Amer	230.71	238.72†	- 1.45	1.29
Pacific Mkts	*118.99*	*123.31*	*- 0.14*	*0.68*
Premier Inc	47.96	49.90†	+ 0.08	6.61
Sm Cos	110.41	117.46	- 2.81	1.72
Spec Sits	125.58	133.60†	+ 2.17	2.64
UK Growth	143.63	152.80	0.08	2.33
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	80.72	84.80	- 1.32	3.90
Investment Trust	111.48	117.32	- 1.96	
UK Smaller Cos	107.01	112.52†	- 2.68	1.24
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	328.00	347.90	- 1.20	3.57
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 0171 623 1000				
FA America (Inc)	650.08	690.64	- 1.20	0.12
FA America (Acc)	*761.83*	*809.37*	*+ 0.26*	*0.12*
FA UK Equity Inc	177.89	190.05	+ 0.58	
FA Japan	246.45	262.17	+ 2.39	
FA Major UK Cos	111.71	119.13†	- 0.31	2.02
FA Smlr UK Cos	387.39	421.68	- 6.64	0.85
FA European	417.78	442.68	+ 3.09	0.48
FA Amer Smlr Cos	58.13	62.21	+ 0.43	..
FA Asia	56.76	60.78	+ 0.07	
FA Jap Smlr Cos	*46.47*	*49.60*	*+ 0.13*	
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	118.54	124.77	- 0.32	
UK Smlr Cos	114.36	120.37	- 1.90	
UK Income	116.96	123.11	+ 0.37	
America	131.47	138.38	+ 0.06	
Japanese	54.58	57.45	+ 0.53	
European	133.85	140.89	+ 0.11	
Gilt	98.76	103.95	- 0.03	
Deposit	89.46	94.16	+ 0.07	
Managed	115.55	121.62	- 0.21	
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	115.21	121.27	- 0.30	
UK Smaller Cos	111.48	117.34	- 1.85	
UK Income	113.87	119.85	+ 0.34	
America	127.70	134.41	+ 0.03	
Japanese	53.02	55.80	+ 0.51	
European	130.98	137.86	+ 0.95	
Gilt	96.55	101.62	- 0.09	
Deposit	*85.65*	*90.16*	*+ 0.08*	
Managed	107.60	113.25	- 0.63	
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	115.70	123.00	- 0.20	0.25
Pacific Basin	84.26	90.40	+ 0.51	0.25
High Inc Dis	150.60	160.90	- 1.80	4.10
Ryl Life Intl Cnry	64.58	68.23	- 0.10	3.79
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	78.43	83.55†	+ 0.25	0.12
Ryl Life Intl Spec	74.50	79.25	- 0.13	
UK Emerging Cos	143.30	154.90	- 5.40	1.34
UK Index Trckg	189.00	200.90	- 3.40	3.71
European	170.30	182.60	- 0.30	0.36
Managed	177.00	190.30	- 2.00	1.04
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	192.10	204.30†	+ 1.80	1.60
European Growth	138.50	146.90	- 1.20	2.21
Far East Growth	148.70	158.20†	- 2.00	1.70
Japan Growth	135.90	144.50	+ 0.70	
Special Sits	234.60	249.50	- 8.60	1.14
UK Growth	95.45	101.50†	- 2.50	1.89
Trian General	287.70	306.10	- 0.90	1.45
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	180.00	190.50	+ 1.60	0.75
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	408.40	432.20	- 1.80	0.26
-do- Accum	638.30	675.40	- 2.80	0.26
Growth Inc	156.40	165.50	+ 0.30	0.49
-do- Accum	160.40	169.70	+ 0.30	0.49
International Inc	407.70	431.40	+ 0.50	0.33
-do- Accum	562.00	594.70	+ 0.70	0.33
Nth Am & Intl Inc	392.00	414.80	+ 0.60	0.59
UK Gen Prog Inc	249.30	262.70	- 1.20	1.06
-do- Accum	*294.40*	*309.90*	*- 1.30*	*1.06*
UK High Inc Inc	143.00	151.30	- 0.10	4.85
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	124.32	132.25	+ 0.72	0.75
European Gwth	90.34	96.10	- 0.37	1.00
Global Bd	61.46	64.94	+ 0.50	5.00
Japan	57.37	61.03	+ 0.45	
UK Gwth	87.63	93.22	- 1.95	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	88.82	94.49	+ 0.89	3.20
Amer Smlr Cos	144.70	153.90	- 2.00	
Capital Portfolio	148.10	157.60	- 3.10	0.95
Cash	134.10	134.10†	+ 0.10	5.24
China Dragon	62.87	66.88	- 0.54	1.34
Commodity	150.60	160.20	- 4.80	
Emerging Mkts	38.55	41.01†	- 0.68	0.30
Energy Inds	160.30	170.50	- 0.90	
European Gwth	235.80	250.90	- 3.10	0.29
Euro Inc & Gwth #	*95.22*	*101.30†*	*1.10*	*1.67*
Euro Smlr Cos	75.30	80.11	- 1.17	0.10
Exempt Income #	150.00	159.90	- 2.30	3.36
Extra Income #	55.36	57.16	- 0.29	6.12
Far Eastern	*114.90*	*122.20*	*- 0.90*	
FE Smr Cos	47.81	50.86†	- 0.03	
Financial Secs	272.70	290.10	- 0.10	1.04
Gold & Exploration	110.60	117.70	- 4.20	
Growth	403.00	405.00	- 3.20	1.75
High Income #	48.89	48.89	- 0.04	7.56
High Yield #	252.70	268.80	- 3.80	3.11
Intl Bond	170.80	180.30	+ 3.20	5.92
ITU	232.60	247.40	- 5.00	0.62
Income #	129.50	137.80	- 2.00	3.78
Japan Growth	184.30	195.90	+ 1.90	
Japan Smaller	199.40	212.10	+ 3.30	
Korea	58.67	62.41	+ 0.93	
Latin America	40.36	42.94†	- 0.43	0.34
Masterfund	64.67	65.00†	- 0.60	0.93
Premier Eq Gth	152.00	161.70†	- 3.40	1.09
Premier Eq Inc #	343.90	365.90	- 5.80	2.04
Scotyields #	272.10	289.50	- 4.40	2.67
Select Intl	155.10	166.00	- 1.10	0.57
Smaller Cos Inc #	261.40	278.10	- 8.60	3.65
SE Asia	53.83	57.27	+ 0.15	0.03
Southern Africa	59.39	63.18	- 0.18	1.29
UK & O'seas	*192.50*	*205.90†*	*- 2.30*	*1.51*
UK Eqty Gth	77.27	82.20	- 1.70	1.57
UK Eqty Inc #	243.50	259.00†	- 4.10	4.15
UK Gth & Inc #	277.50	295.20†	- 9.50	3.41
UK Sm Cos	58.98	62.74	- 1.62	1.27
US Growth	205.60	218.70	+ 1.00	
Univ Growth	158.40	168.50	- 1.00	0.72
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Cinc: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	322.15	340.67	3.43	0.89
-do- Accum	355.30	375.73	- 3.77	0.89
European Gwth	91.15	96.56	+ 0.41	0.79
Euro Smlr Cos	112.63	119.88†	+ 0.86	0.79
Far Eastern Gth	*113.74*	*121.32†*	*+ 0.57*	
-do- Accum	115.94	123.67†	+ 0.59	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	52.11	54.90	+ 0.03	7.47
Global Bond #	51.25	52.95†	+ 0.86	6.71
-do- Accum #	61.06	63.09†	+ 1.02	6.71
Global Emer Mkts	59.04	62.97	- 0.27	
-do- Accum	59.09	63.02	- 0.27	
Income #	399.04	425.64	- 0.74	5.05
-do- Accum #	£13.21	£14.10	- 2.16	5.05
Japan Smlr Cos	489.40	520.95†	+ 6.75	
-do- Accum	489.57	522.00†	+ 6.77	
Japan Enterprise	*71.05*	*75.78*	*+ 1.27*	
Pacific Gwth	161.05	171.79	+ 1.22	0.51
-do- Accum	166.83	177.95	+ 1.26	0.51
Portfolio	93.72	99.96	- 0.13	2.02
-do- Accum	103.45	110.35	- 0.14	2.02
Seoul	49.16	52.43	- 0.33	
-do- Accum	49.16	52.43	- 0.32	
Smaller Cos	307.55	328.05†	4.03	0.79
Strategic Inc	110.21	116.97	- 0.21	2.27
Strategic Acc	100.21	106.81	- 0.21	2.27
Tokyo	133.63	142.60	+ 1.21	
-do- Accum	135.04	144.04	+ 1.30	
UK Enterprise	322.19	343.66†	- 0.99	2.30
-do- Accum	398.74	423.08†	- 1.33	2.30
UK Equity	390.03	415.50†	- 0.74	2.62
-do- Accum	*596.73*	*625.45†*	*1.50*	*2.62*
US Smlr Cos	[illegible]	236.84	- 0.77	
-do- Accum	222.04	236.84	- 0.77	
Institutional Funds				
European	290.62	301.49†	+ 0.96	2.04
-do- Accum	328.19	340.46†	+ 1.24	2.04
Euro Smlr Cos	37.68	39.21	+ 0.22	1.27
-do- Accum	40.54	42.19	+ 0.24	1.27
Global Equity Inc	57.02	59.95	+ 0.67	1.02
Japan Smlr Cos	41.57	43.30	+ 0.43	0.11
-do- Accum	41.97	43.71	+ 0.44	0.11
Mngd Balanced	227.79	237.63	- 0.44	3.19
-do- Accum	258.60	269.78	- 0.51	3.19
Overseas Equity	223.31	232.61†	+ 0.78	1.30
-do- Accum	234.24	244.00†	+ 0.82	1.30
Overs Smlr Cos	155.66	160.06	+ 1.07	0.92
-do- Accum	161.93	168.67	+ 1.13	0.92
Pacific	295.61	307.51	+ 1.17	1.36
-do- Accum	316.03	328.91	+ 1.23	1.36
Recovery	372.88	373.83†	-16.29	3.05
-do- Accum	675.17	726.52	-24.00	3.05
UK Index	176.96	184.23	- 3.16	3.54
-do- Accum	205.59	214.99	- 3.03	3.54
UK Smaller Cos	139.41	145.21	- 2.62	2.45
-do- Accum	153.04	159.41	- 2.87	2.45
US Smlr Cos	64.48	67.16	- 0.14	0.50
-do- Accum	66.10	69.77	- 0.14	0.50
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	56.95	60.22	- 0.87	2.95
Equity Trust	73.21	77.42	[illegible]	1.83
Equity Strategy	86.01	91.91	[illegible]	1.24
European Opps	106.35	112.51	1.77	0.41
UK Smaller Cos	80.61	85.24	- 0.03	0.95
Monument Inc	100.01	103.61	- 0.08	5.87
Japanese	83.42	88.22	- 0.17	
Asia Pacific	137.57	139.14	- 0.55	0.31
American	130.48	137.98	1.16	0.34
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.02	5.22
UK General Inc	64.95	67.01†	1.90	3.57
-do- Accum	71.05	85.20†	[illegible]	3.57
Intl Income	208.23	212.78	0.92	2.56
-do- Accum	573.18	557.44	- 1.66	1.55
European	101.60	107.21	- 0.44	1.67
Japan	71.51	75.72	- 0.93	
American	90.92	96.25	1.89	1.49
Far East	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.52	1.37
Ethical Inc	35.39	38.65†	1.32	1.21
UK Blue Chip Inc	39.23	39.84	- 0.36	3.37
Hmy Inc Inc	[illegible]	33.05	0.54	3.63
UK Global Inc	47.05	50.21	- 0.20	2.04
Wwide Tact	81.86	87.22	0.75	1.01
Europe 2000 Fund	69.93	74.23	0.02	1.55
Technology	148.64	158.50	1.32	0.87
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
0131 229 2211				
UK Equity	391.76	412.39	+ 0.30	2.92
American	236.36	257.40	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific	376.00	405.50	- 1.97	5.26
European	698.53	731.05	+ 5.32	0.50
Worldwide	104.91	111.40	- 0.30	0.41
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	313.20	331.29†	1.75	2.12
-do- Accum	410.40	436.69†	6.13	2.12
UK Sm Co Eq Inc	268.73	285.80†	5.07	1.20
-do- Accum	326.50	347.20†	6.95	1.20
Select Uppfly Inc	61.05	[illegible]	1.99	1.55
Income Plus Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
European Inc	522.00	566.70	[illegible]	1.02
-do- Accum	493.60	525.60	[illegible]	1.02
Far Eastern Inc	189.00	201.10	1.47	0.99
-do- Accum	217.60	231.40	[illegible]	0.99
Japanese Inc	127.70	134.34	[illegible]	0.37
Nth American Inc	301.50	321.60	- 4.27	0.79
-do- Accum	334.50	[illegible]	- 4.70	0.79

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Growth Inc	232.80	247.70†	- 0.60	0.76
Wwide Venture Inc	95.20	101.30	0.10	0.32
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
0131 668 3724				
Equity Inc	431.10	459.80	- 8.60	2.45
-do- Accum	653.80	697.20	-13.00	2.45
-do- Accum	204.70	217.80	- 3.20	2.96
UK High Inc	311.40	332.10	4.80	2.96
-do- Accum	466.50	497.50	- 0.70	0.63
Europe Inc	311.90	332.60	+ 4.10	
Nth Amer Inc	261.80	279.20	- 0.50	0.33
Global Inc	282.00	300.70	- 0.00	0.73
Global Acc	125.00	133.30	- 2.90	1.52
UK Spec Sits Inc	250.80	267.50	+ 1.50	1.31
South East Asia	100.50	100.50	- 0.10	5.05
Cash Trust Inc	123.30	131.50	- 3.80	1.62
UK Smlr Cos Inc	128.40	137.00	- 3.90	1.62
-do- Accum	95.77	101.10	+ 1.58	5.29
Intl Bond Inc				
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	160.80	169.30†	+ 0.30	0.70
Nth American	135.80	142.90†	+ 1.30	
Intl Bond & Conv	127.70	134.40	+ 0.40	6.64
Pooled Pension (E)	225.00	241.90†	8.30	1.98
Smaller Cos	113.60	119.60	- 2.50	0.81
UK General #	156.60	164.60	- 1.60	2.29
Far Eastern	103.60	109.00	- 0.60	
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 6226				
Amer Gth Fund †	122.84		+ 1.36	
Aztec †	69.30		- 0.30	
European †	168.38		+ 2.04	
Global Bond †	91.41		+ 0.51	8.19
Investment Trust †	113.62		- 1.00	0.97
Preferred Income †	106.55		1.26	4.92
Samurai †	81.72		0.73	
Sterling Reserve †	100.29		+ 0.08	4.70
UK Growth †	107.62		- 1.25	2.42
Ya Pan †	107.99		+ 0.27	
UK Emerg Leaders †	112.79		- 2.46	2.36
UK Equity Inc †	108.80		- 0.87	4.89
Glob Cwth PEP	76.78	81.68	+ 0.33	1.16
Pref Inc PEP #	99.75	105.70†	- 1.00	5.61
Inv Trust PEP	56.79	60.41	+ 0.48	
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	441.60	473.60†	-21.20	0.00
Capital	143.00	152.80	- 3.30	1.27
Cash	*101.16*	*101.46*	*+ 0.08*	*5.27*
European	159.60	169.10	- 1.70	0.40
Far Eastern	166.40	176.10	- 0.10	
Growth	157.10	166.20†	- 7.00	1.11
Income #	*133.80*	*141.60*	*- 1.60*	*5.05*
Magnum	151.40	162.30†	- 3.30	1.27
Smlr Secs	528.20	559.00	-11.70	0.47
Thoroughbred	177.40	189.80†	- 4.00	1.15
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01202 298 422				
Chrtrld Prfmnce	57.34	61.32	- 0.07	
Ethical	82.83	88.58	1.18	
European Growth	83.08	88.28†	+ 0.91	1.13
Income	59.78	63.93	- 0.14	3.91
Intl Growth	*114.20*	*121.40*	*+ 0.90*	*1.24*
Managed	93.11	99.27†	+ 0.25	2.02
UK Growth	75.97	81.25	- 0.66	1.65
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	45.70	45.93	- 0.64	1.59
Global Advtg Acc	49.51	49.76	0.69	1.59
Income Advtg Inc	34.14	34.32†	0.57	3.50
Income Advtg Acc	39.64	39.84	- 0.66	3.50
UK Equity Gth Acc	93.66	99.28	- 3.12	1.05
Premier Inc Inc	48.51	51.06†	0.02	7.33
Premier Inc Acc	51.24	53.94	0.02	7.33
Managed Acc	60.69	64.34	- 0.91	1.46
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	39.19	41.55	0.61	4.23
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	51.31	54.39	- 0.81	4.23
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	74.18	78.82	1.34	2.26
UK Equity Gen Inc	53.61	56.97	- 0.96	2.26
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	31.67	33.50		6.70
Overs Lrg Co Acc	367.10	388.40	+ 0.10	1.36
Nth American Acc	56.73	60.28	+ 0.15	
Pacific Basin	45.90	49.77	- 1.07	0.51
European Acc	60.17	63.94	- 0.52	0.78
Japan Acc	28.27	30.04	+ 0.10	
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
0171 344 7900				
Global A (NZ$)	4.434	4.710	- 0.06	1.92
US Eqty A(US$)	*3.087*	*3.279*	*- 0.09*	*0.76*
Far East Eqty (yen)	279.80	297.20	6.40	
FT Europa	151.60	161.00	- 2.20	0.66
FT N Amer A(C$)	2.345	2.490	- 0.09	0.26
FT Japan (yen)	344.00	358.70	5.20	
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.806	2.981	- 0.08	0.55
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 226 3271				
American	509.30	539.70	+11.40	
British #	*1262.90*	*1336.10*	*-15.20*	*3.06*
Emrgng Mkts	165.30	176.00	- 0.90	0.66
Euro Small Co	67.07	71.43	- 0.22	0.68
Japan	143.80	152.70	+ 1.30	
New Pacific	448.10	477.20†	+ 3.30	1.01
-do- Accum	482.20	513.50	+ 3.60	1.01
Inv Trust Acc	296.20	313.90	3.10	0.87
Mngd Equity	203.30	215.10†	- 0.40	1.56
Mngd Cash	95.56	95.56†	+ 0.08	5.49
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 389				
Equity	1039.00	1111.00	- 1.00	1.56
North America	191.30	204.60	+ 2.30	
Far East	175.20	187.40	+ 0.70	0.04
Wwde Bond	60.56	64.33	+ 1.09	4.89
European	136.90	146.40	- 1.00	0.86
Equity Income #	102.50	109.60†	- 0.60	4.12
Portfolio	*107.70*	*115.20*	*- 0.10*	*1.35*
UK Leading Cos	73.83	78.75†	+ 0.37	
High Inc Bond	50.48	50.55	+ 0.05	
Broker Trusts				
Intnl Equity	*76.75*	*82.09†*	*- 1.75*	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
Antares UT	24.10	25.64†	0.09	0.57
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	95.37	101.46	- 0.04	7.35
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	96.58	102.75	- 0.04	7.35
European	48.99	52.12†	- 0.64	0.40
High Income	34.57	36.78	- 0.03	4.14
Japan	36.68	39.03†	+ 0.31	0.01
Managed Assets	140.16	149.91†	+ 0.20	2.59
North American	*43.29*	*46.06†*	*- 0.79*	*0.38*
Sml Co's Inc	36.47	38.80	- 0.81	1.77
Sml Co's Acc	39.73	42.27†	- 0.88	1.77
UK Growth Inc	61.75	65.70†	- 0.23	2.98
UK Growth Acc	69.56	74.03†	- 0.25	2.98
UK Income	43.49	46.52†	+ 0.06	3.69
Worldwide Gth	41.27	44.14	+ 0.16	0.01
Confederation				
Asian & Oceanic Ex	33.27	34.30	- 0.05	1.66
European Exmpt	99.29	102.37	+ 0.92	1.59
Japan Exempt	30.57	31.52	+ 0.18	0.09
US Exempt	*94.29*	*97.15*	*+ 0.09*	*1.37*
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	57.26	60.91	- 1.85	
Cap Protector Inc	46.22	49.17	- 0.21	2.79
UK Income Inc	57.34	61.00	+ 0.01	3.18
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	34.62	36.71†	+ 0.05	6.62
Mngd High Yld Inc	86.46	91.98	+ 0.10	4.39
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	82.79	88.07	- 0.16	3.29
UK Smaller Cos	40.38	42.96	- 0.66	1.21
Pacific Gth Fun	*53.26*	*56.66*	*+ 0.67*	*0.68*
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
01264 346 794				
American	296.85	314.13	+ 3.36	
-do- Accum	326.97	346.00	+ 4.35	
Brit Growth	115.08	121.78	- 0.16	1.99
-do- Accum	141.87	150.13	- 0.20	1.99
European	129.95	137.52	+ 0.88	
-do- Accum	138.31	146.36	+ 0.93	
Extra Income	201.75	213.49	+ 0.77	4.14
-do- Accum	360.39	381.37	+ 1.37	4.14
Smaller Cos	88.95	94.13	- 1.50	0.64
-do- Accum	101.49	107.40	- 1.71	0.64
General	338.65	358.36†	- 1.23	2.23
-do- Accum	725.82	765.95†	- 2.61	2.23
Preferred Income	51.11	53.24	- 0.06	6.59
-do- Accum	125.14	130.36	- 0.13	6.59
Income	357.97	378.81†	+ 0.19	3.58
-do- Accum	829.27	876.47†	+ 0.43	3.58
Pacific	447.67	473.72†	+ 2.37	
-do- Accum	470.38	497.76†	+ 2.50	
International	645.69	685.27	+ 4.75	
-do- Accum	850.78	900.33	+ 6.26	
Nat Resources	250.91	212.61	3.21	
Global Opps	125.57	132.38	- 2.76	1.22
-do- Accum	163.76	173.30	- 3.60	1.22
Environmental Inv	76.13	80.56	- 0.54	1.33
Selector	72.38	76.59	- 0.50	1.70
-do- Accum	83.67	88.56	0.58	1.70
High Income	66.37	70.07†	+ 0.19	4.60
-do- Accum	89.59	95.21†	+ 0.26	4.60
Intl Income	63.69	67.46	0.10	4.96
-do- Accum	93.14	97.98	- 0.92	4.96
Selector Income	64.90	68.68	+ 0.19	[illegible]
-do- Accum	80.90	85.61	+ 0.24	[illegible]
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
0181 667 1018				
British	393.63	414.55	1.54	2.51
European	72.29	76.85	0.36	1.74
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	253.35	269.57†	- 0.27	1.32
Glob Balncd Inc	195.58	209.16	+ 0.05	3.35
Value Tst Inc	141.62	151.47†	+ 0.11	2.01
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	45.36	47.17	+ 1.17	5.60
European Growth	346.78	362.59	+ 4.08	1.00
Exempt	637.64	666.62†	- 3.90	3.50
Global Em Mkts	86.90	90.39	+ 1.32	0.30
Japan Tst	81.14	84.96	- 0.66	
Little Dragons	101.22	105.94	- 0.10	
Nth Amer Gwth	284.70	297.69†	+ 1.32	0.50
Oriental Income #	48.74	51.03	+ 0.16	3.01
Preference	129.59	135.69	- 0.05	8.60
Tiger	307.61	322.13	- 0.86	
UK Blue Chip	73.70	77.17	+ 0.32	2.00
UK Growth	632.40	660.30	- 4.45	1.01
UK High Yield #	108.99	114.12†	+ 0.76	6.00
UK Mid Cap	316.41	331.31	5.16	1.50
UK Smlr Cos	132.85	139.03	- 3.79	0.70
UK Smlr Cos Div #	92.07	96.40†	- 1.54	5.70
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
01277 690 336				
UK Equity Income #	109.54	116.55	- 6.20	5.51
UK Equity Growth	98.45	104.73	0.53	3.02
European	78.26	83.26	- 0.74	1.45
Nth American	88.75	94.42	- 0.77	0.12
Far Eastern	75.75	80.78		0.40
Money	71.02	71.07	- 0.05	5.07
Fixed Interest #	73.89	93.70	- 0.02	7.67
Index Linked Gilt	70.52	75.02		1.31
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0345 959595				
Income Trust	100.92	103.82	+ 0.10	3.70
UK Index Tracking (i)	124.89	124.99	- 0.07	2.96
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0131 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	30.78	33.87	- 0.96	
Pacific Basin	46.39	49.51	- 0.13	
Global Bond (US$)	0.9957	0.9967		
Forest Share	45.76	49.18	- 1.34	
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 623 2444				
Challenger	95.30	99.31	- 0.25	7.00
Short Gilt Tst	124.60	125.20	+ 0.10	
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.7750	0.7865	- 0.00	
Gilt Income	51.64	53.74†	- 0.07	8.00
Gilt Smash	*76.67*	*79.32*	*+ 0.02*	
Sterling Gains	47.71	51.05	0.07	6.50
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 298 4000				
Intl Mngd	55.42	58.86	- 0.07	1.38
UK Income	97.34	103.58	- 1.00	2.77
Corporate Bond	48.60	49.83	- 0.01	6.57

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return)

† Ex dividend ‡ Middle price .. No significant data

Periodic Charge deducted from capital [illegible]

Charity

Shares end the week steady

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	422	**Allied Domecq**	434	+ 1	6.8	16.4
625	500	Bulmer (HP)	589		2.8	
131	96	Burn Stewart	101		6.2	21.8
775	615	Glenmorangie A	765		2.0	19.6
464	411	**Grand Met**	434	+ 1½	4.6	18.2
493	435	**Guinness**	473	+ 3	3.9	15.4
378	315	Highland Dist	377	+ 3	2.7	17.6
196	150	Macallan-Glen	153		1.2	31.4
803	655	Matthew Clark	722	+ 2	4.2	29.9
141	93	Minydon Wt	136		4.5	
2612½	1706¼	SA Breweries	1850	+112½	2.0	

BANKS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3616¾	2743¼	ABN AMRO	3331¼	+ 81¼	4.2	11.4
663	528	**Abbey Nat**	564	+ 6	4.8	10.8
385	315	Allied Irish	335	+ 6	5.2	9.8
336	285	Aus New Z	315	+ 9	5.9	7.7
5243¾	3843¾	Bank America	5112½	+118¾		
316	231½	**Bank Scotland**	234½	+ 1	3.7	9.9
819	683	**Barclays**	802	+ 10	4.1	10.5
488	413	Bk of Ireland	429	+ 6	4.4	
482	379	Cater Allen	418	+ 3	9.0	12.4
6606¼	4031¼	Citicorp	5293¾	+181¼		
382	318	Close Bros	331		3.4	14.7
£157¼	£131½	Commerzbk	£145¼	+100	3.6	
1350	1065¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1087½		0.5	
3412½	2850	Deutsche Bk	3237½	- 6¼	2.4	
803¾	593¾	Espirito Santo	758¾		4.7	10.2
1507	1251	Fuji Bank Y	1289¾	- 5	0.4	
472	339	Gerrard Natl	339		8.5	10.7
252	196	Hambros	224	+ 1	4.2	
1125	931	**HSBC**	1047	+ 17	3.8	11.2
1099	930	HSBC Hk	1022	+ 15½	3.9	10.9
421	385	Irish Perm	403		3.2	11.0
177	143	King Shaxson	149		7.6	12.9
456	415	Leopold J	418		6.0	14.6
347½	294½	**Lloyds TSB**	337	- 3½	2.9	14.8
640	566	Nat Aust Bk	598	+ 15	7.4	7.6
711	605½	**Nat West**	627		5.0	8.8
66	50	Rea Brothers	50		7.5	24.0
596	458½	**Ryl Bk Scot**	491½	+ 8½	4.3	10.9
1380	1185	**Schroders**	1305	- 5	1.5	18.2
1128	890	Schroders N/V	1000	- 1	2.0	15.9
122	99½	Singer & Fried	111	+ 2	4.5	9.2
672	547	**Stand Chart**	664	+ 8	2.1	14.5
105	85½	Union	95	- 1	3.9	
£174¼	£131¼	Wells Fargo	£142¾	- 87½	2.4	
329½	264	Westpac	276½	- 1½	5.2	
360	268	Wintrust	358		4.5	

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
50	36	Abrdn Stk Hl	38			8.3
387	263	Ascot Hldgs	372		1	
839	702	**Bass**	805	+ 8	3.6	17.3
50	40	Brit for the Bdr	47		5.2	10.5
177	161	Burtonwood Brw	167		4.1	
136½	92	City Centre Rest	112		2.5	21.1
621	463	Compass Grp	573	+ 7	1.7	27.3
265	190	Eldridge P A 'O'	252		2.4	23.2
540	413	Fuller Sm 'A'	530		2.2	
636	546	Greenalls Grp	559	+ 2	3.3	15.2
671	567½	Greene King	594	+ 7	3.3	
285	224	Grosvenor Inns	239		2.9	25.4
259	204	Groupe Chez Ger	226	+ 2	1.4	22.9

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
558	426	Brammer	542		3.3	16.9
22	18	Bridgend Grp	21		1.2	
173	76	Bell Fillings	109	...	4.4	14.1
290	245	Calyst	285		5.0	22.6
160	105	Caverdale	127		3.0	8.5
107½	78	Charles Sidney	98	...	4.8	13.8
79	54½	Cook (DC)	74		3.6	
406¼	276¼	Cowie	375	- 3	3.5	14.8
176	120½	Dag Motors	151	..	6.4	10.5
163	125½	Dowtrans Eff	138		2.4	13.8
434	328	Diploma	339	+ 9	5.3	11.9
407	328	Electrocomponts	381	..	2.2	24.4
314	173	Eurodis Elec	177	+ 2	3.1	12.7
134	65	Eurodollar	102		5.0	15.3
105	76	European Mtrl	94	- 1	6.9	10.6
375	286	Evans Halshaw	313		6.6	11.4
67	48	Fife Indmar	50		8.2	6.9
339	249	Finelist Grp	283	- 2	2.5	16.6
30½	16½	Gardiner	29½	+ 1	3.8	11.7
66½	33½	Glenchewton	63½		1.8	46.7
91	83	Cowrings	83		4.1	12.7
292	216	Harris (Philip)	258		4.0	19.4
293	200½	Headlam	278	+ 2	2.2	22.1
300	132	Holders Tech	195		3.9	18.1
185	153	IEA Intl	180		1.7	18.3
376	231	Inchcape	280		4.1	
60	33	Jacks (Wm)	48	..	4.6	18.6
248	169	Kwik-Fit	227		2.8	15.9
389	291	Lex Service	350	+ 2	5.4	12.1
155	119	Lookers	139		7.3	8.0
17	10½	Malaya Grp	11½		7.2	11.9
9½	6¼	Middleton	7	+ ¼	1.4	11.2
47	31	Midstates	39			8.8
565	440	National	502		7.9	14.7
349	230	Northumber	276	- 1	1.0	
182	108	PCT	125	+ 10	7.7	12.1
341	272	Pendragon	328		3.4	16.7
211	145	Perry Gp	186		5.4	11.1
745	603	Premier Farnell	630	+ 7	2.1	16.8
190	135	Quicks Group	186		4.2	15.5
315	195	REA	293		1.2	36.7
3	2	Reece	2			
61	36½	Ronson	42	+ 2	4.5	6.4
4½	2	Ross Gp	3½			
56	46½	SEP Indl	53	+ 1½	3.9	11.3
195	130	Sattout	144		0.9	19.2
373	246	Time Products	352	- 2	3.8	
41	30	Toms Hire	35		4.6	18.4
223	123	UNIGOT	211	...	2.5	18.5
332½	263¾	Vardy (Reg)▲	313	- 1	2.6	
413	325	Wholesale Ftgs	385		3.9	20.5
59	29½	Wilshaw	31½	+ 2	3.4	
143	78	Wyko	139	..	1.6	
133	104	Young (H)	113		4.4	10.4

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1½	¼	Anglo Utd	1			
388	288	Antofagasta	310		2.1	10.4
1056	804	Broken Hill	856	+ 35	3.0	18.6
340	229	**BTR**	236		7.8	9.9
586	471	**BAT**	494½	- 5	6.1	9.7
224	173½	Berisford Intl	186	+ 1	2.4	13.5
134	108	Bibby (J)	120	+ 2	6.2	8.7
63½	50½	Brenley Ins	60½		7.6	3.1
972	817	Charter	850	+ 6	4.0	12.6
328	240	Cookson	253	- 2	4.0	13.1
193	141	Cosalt	187	- 1	6.2	11.6
283	204	DCC	268		3.2	10.6
140	113	Grampian Hldg	121	+ 2	6.3	13.5
220	156½	**Hanson**	162½	+ 3	9.2	7.6
172½	128	Harrison Crsfld	133	- 2	8.6	12.8
439½	379½	Hutch Whampo	398	+ 4½	2.0	21.3

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
299	200	Quadramatic	267	+ 18	4.1	15.5
18	14½	Quadrant Grp	15	..	2.1	41.9
65	62	Radiant Metal	65			
89	53	Ransomes	57		1.1	13.8
83	55½	Record	67	..	6.7	12.6
324	231	Renold	284		2.5	13.6
36	21	Richards Group	24		11.7	7.2
89	76	Richardson West	77		5.9	8.9
246	187	**Rolls-Royce**	227	+ 2½	2.8	27.1
358	171	Rotork	241	+ 1	3.8	22.0
192	160	Rubicon	183		3.8	18.2
1568¾	1187½	SKF 'B'	1434¾	+ 3½	3.6	8.0

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
77½	67	Brazilian	74½	..	2.2	
291	259	Brunner	266	+ 1	2.8	41.9
132	113	BZW Convt	117	+ 1½	8.3	14.7
523	468	Candover	478	+ 5	3.5	28.6
68	39	Central Euro Gwth	63		0.9	
223	177	Cont Assct	219	+ 1	1.7	
75	67	Danae Inv Inc	67	..	10.6	
390	325	Derby Cap	348			
160	141	Derby Inc	145		16.7	7.5
744	654	Dunedin Inc G	667	+ 5½	5.2	23.3
98	81	Dunedin Japan	82	+ ½		
372	314	Duncan Smith	338	+ 3	3.3	43.4

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
31	15	Mercury Wld Wts	16	+ ½		
615	567	Monks Inv Tst	583	+ 5	2.1	44.7
170½	151	Morg Gren Inc	153½	+ 1	4.1	25.8
70½	53	Morg Wts	53½			
78½	57¾	Morg Latn Amer	70½	+ ½	0.5	...
32	20	Morg Wts	24½	+ 1		
131	111	Murray Ent	123		2.5	46.5
24	17	Murray Ent Wts	18			
95	82	Murray Emg Eco	85	+ ½	1.3	76.9
35½	21	Murray Em Ec Wt	22¾	+ ¼	..	
87	54	Murray Euro	63½		0.7	
397	338	Murray Intrnat	345	+ 3½	4.3	28.4

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
93	75	City of London	81		7.8	11.8
138	90	Coolkeel	110			
1731¼	1300	Daily Mail	1478¾	...	1.5	39.0
1868¾	1168¾	Daily Mail 'A'	1331¼	+ 6¼	1.7	
646	495	Dorling Kind	539		1.0	38.2
725	530	EMAP	688	+ 4	2.0	29.1
1091	845½	Elsevier	993¾	+ 24½	2.3	24.2
1338	1030	Euromoney Pb	1300	- 3	4.2	24.8
43½	19	Fitch	41	...	...	14.7
535	440	Flextech	492			
251	198	GGT Group	222	..	3.3	
258¾	174	GWR Grp	209	...	1.4	32.9

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
110½	93½	HTR Jap Smaller	105	+ ½		
16	9	I&S Ent	12			
147	114	I&S UK Smllr	141	+ 1	2.6	32.3
148	129	Inv Cap	134	+ 1	4.9	23.7
157	101	Inf Biotech	120	+ 4	1.0	
70	31	Inf Wts	41	+ 2		
115	95	Intl C	98	+ 1		
114	96½	INVESCO Asia	97½	+ 1	0.8	
65	45	INVESCO Blue	45	- 1	23.3	4.6
181	136	INVESCO Eng Intl	168	+ 1	0.7	56.7
92	75½	INVESCO Jap Dis	85	+ ½	0.4	

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
251	178	Eurocamp	180		7.8	8.4
208	139	Euro Disney	172	+ 1	..	
183	148	Euro Leisure	167			4.6
19	13	Famingland	13½	+ ½		
86	49½	First Choice	51½	- 1½	7.1	
400	347	First Leisure	352		2.8	20.3
190	142	Friendly Hotels	168	+ 2	4.2	22.4
879	619	**Granada**	796	- 1	1.9	19.3
57	25	Hi-Tec Sports	40	- 4		18.1
207	148	Hornby	201	+ 1	2.7	
553	423	Hozelock	485		2.3	17.8

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1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
137	109	INVESCO Korea	111½	+ 2½		
63½	52	INVESCO Tokyo	56	+ ½		
96½	69	J Fry 2nd U	71		12.1	8.9
79	68	J Fry Euro II	75		7.4	13.7
260	224	JF Fledg Jap	245			
88	74	Jupiter Ex Inc	77½	+ ½	12.6	8.5
7	4	Jupiter Ex IncWt	6			
83	70	Jupiter Grd Cap	74		13.4	9.2
29	24½	Jupiter Gnt Pfd	27			
128	108	Jupiter Intl Grn	120	+ 1	3.9	
282	252	Klnwt Chrl	270½	+ 2	2.6	47.5
130	114	Klnwt E Mkt	116½	+ ½		
154	133	Klnwt End	147			
95	80	Klnwt Euro Pvt	90¼	+ ½	3.1	39.9
29½	19½	Klnwt Euro Wts	26½			

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
292	201	Jarvis Hotels	269¾	- 1½	3.0	...
31½	23½	Kunick	27¼	+ ¼	3.0	22.9
207	143	Ladbroke	184	+ 2½	4.1	28.6
573	425	London Clubs	534	+ 14	3.6	17.7
489	188	Man Utd	427	- 2	1.4	13.8
96¼	77½	Mandarin Orntl	89¼	+ 1¼	4.0	19.3
345	278	Millennium & Cop	311	+ 1	1.9	
142	88	Northern	135	+ 1	4.0	14.2
146	114	Prism Leisure	146		5.1	
38	28	Queensborough	31			
32	11½	Queens Moat	16½	+ 1½		5.1
547	442	**Rank Org**	476	- 5	4.1	15.3
47	31	Ryan Hotels	44		4.4	
1390	930	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1343	+ 5	1.3	54.0
215	175	Sinclair (Wm)	186		5.2	12.0

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1203	1075	Henderson Adj	1130		5.0	19.1
286	221	Invesco	227	+ 1	2.6	15.3
48	41	Investment Co	45	- 1	6.4	13.8
278	228	Ivory Sime	272	+ 1	3.9	
230½	183½	Jardine Strat	207¾	+ 3	4.7	
160	98	Johnson Fry	127	...	9.9	6.1
387	328	Liberty Intl	356		5.1	20.2
295	218	Lon Forfaiting	270	+ 3	4.7	14.1
261	216	London Pacific	234	..	8.0	20.8
117	87½	Lon Scot Bnk	102	+ 2	3.2	19.2
186	139	Man ED & F	172	+ 1	7.6	
1354	1098	M & G	1113	+ 10	3.8	20.7
983	841	MAM	919	- 1	4.8	
109	94	Nat Home Loans	98	+ 1	1.3	4.4
2575	1830	Perpetual	2298	+165	2.6	20.3
496	395	Provident	419	+ 6	4.2	16.7
336	310	Rathbone Brs	312	+ 1	4.0	14.6
58½	37½	Rutland Tst	50½		3.0	18.4
78	42	SEC Group	74		7.2	
457	290	S & U	401	+ 8	5.0	10.6
134	100	SJP Capital	115	+ 5½	3.6	7.8
607	499½	Smire Pacific	561½	+ 10½	2.2	22.1
57	33	Towry Law	39		3.2	
8	5	Trio Hldgs	5½	+ ½	...	...

PHARMACEUTICALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3500¾	1637	Brit Biotech	2153	+ 10		
715	340	Cantab Pharms	665	+ 2		
693	473½	Celltech	530	+ 2		
588	224	Chiroscience	354	+ 14	...	
447	166	Cortecs	284	+ 2		
969	767	**Glaxo Wellcome**	892	+ 10½	4.2	18.1
286	208	Medeva	239	..	2.2	13.4
248	198	Peptide Thera	203	+ 2		
808	524	Scotia	698	+ 13		
266	183	Shire Pharms	243			
96	68	SkyePharma	73	+ 4	...	...
727½	628½	**SmithKline**	684	+ 12½	2.7	19.0
633	495	Vanguard	495			
1474	1216	**Zeneca**	1395	+ 13	2.8	22.5

PRINTING & PAPER

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
155	130	AG Holdings	152		4.7	12.8
685	547	API	670		1.9	22.2
140	91	App Holo	118	+ 1		
212	164	Arjo Wiggins	179	+ 2	5.2	36.1
295	190	Aspen Comms	191		4.1	11.0
397	339	Bemrose	340		5.3	10.2
173	138	Blagden	167		1.2	26.7
2725	2168¾	Bowater Inc	2288¾	+ 6¼		
315	209½	Boxmore Intl	289		1.2	23.6
770	645	Br Polythene	727		2.8	15.4

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
498	256	Lloyds Chem	481	+ 6	2.7	18.4
188½	149½	MFI	180		3.1	
495½	416½	**Marks Spencer**	484	- 6½	2.9	19.9
635	525	Menzies (John)	547		3.2	13.4
21	15½	Merchant Retail	18			
1305	615	Moss Bros	1270	- 5	1.8	28.9
596	420	Next	539		2.8	25.7
63	40½	Owen (G)	41	- 1		
535	400	OnBarne Intl	475	+ 5	3.2	
80	66	Partridge Fine	75		4.9	12.4
56	32	QS Hldgs	39		5.0	
19	9½	Rhino Grp	17	+ 1		
251	191	Rosebys	248		2.8	20.1
105	92	Sears	97	+ 3	5.1	
34	14½	Signet Group	22¾	+ 1¼		
508	399	Smith WH	467	- 2	4.2	26.8
1010	820	Sotheby's	905		1.7	24.3
362	281	Storehouse	285	- 7	3.2	16.2
120	90	Stylo	114		5.3	17.0
231	181	T & S Stores	200		4.4	11.9
171	159	Tie Rack	158½	..	2.2	15.9
3¾	2¼	Upton & South	3¼			
664	542	Vendome	596	+ 1	2.2	
29½	12	WEW Group	27	+ 1	1.6	
141	66	Wickes	89		3.8	
94	52	Wld of Leather	83		2.4	
222	198	Wyevale	201	- 1	3.3	17.3

SUPPORT SERVICES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1550	883	ADT	1175	+ 12		
135	92	Alpha Airpts	98		6.4	10.6
38	27	Alphameric	29	+ 1		
45	25	Auto Sec	38			
241	123	BET Ord	232		2.3	23.2
190	129	BNB Res	177		4.5	10.5
400	283	BPP	383		3.7	19.6
186	155	BSM	185		4.7	13.3
1960	1015	BTG	1700	+ 25	0.3	
1350	400	Borland	450	+ 25		
107	88	Br Bloodstock	93		2.0	
164	123	Brit Data Mgt	159		4.2	23.0
105	80	Brook Service	102		3.7	17.4
488	373	Business Post	463	+ 5	2.3	26.7
685	529	CMG	625	+ 39	0.8	29.7
165	111½	CRT Gp	153		3.1	23.6
958½	187	Caird Gp	362	+ 4		
380	285	Capita Group	357	+ 12	1.4	30.4
37	15	Cardinal Bus	15			
10¼	6	Chemex	8	+ 1¼	2.3	13.9
386	317	Chubb Secl	333		3.2	
182	92	Corp Services	166	+ 2	2.6	16.6
56	46	Coutts Cnslg	53		4.7	21.1
151	73	DCS Gp	151	+ 8	1.2	23.7
265	214	Davis Service	265	+ 2	4.4	14.1
558	367	Delphi	520		1.7	20.4
144	98	Dudley Jenkins	144		3.2	19.4
79	38	EW Fact	64		1.5	12.7
116	78	El Data Prct	79		3.4	11.4

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
25	21	M&G Rec Cap	22½			
50	44½	M&G Rec Geared	46½		11.6	
26½	23	M&G Rec Inc	24½		21.9	4.5
148	133	M&G Rec Pcnge	139		3.9	
94½	88½	M&G Rec Zero Div	93½			
144	114	M Currie Euro	137½	- 2	0.7	
112	99	M Currie Japan	101	+ ½		
167	143	M Currie Pac	156	+ 1	0.7	
242	222	Majedie	225	+ 1	3.5	34.6
290	235	Merchants	243½	- 3½	6.7	20.1
102	91	Mercury Euro Pv	99		2.4	38.2
32	22½	Mercury Eur Wt	28½			
110	92	Mercury World	96½		1.3	72.9

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
18	14	BBB Design	16			
425	273	Barbour Index	367		3.1	55.2
9	5¼	Bleasdale	6			
340	325	Black (A&C)	330		5.3	12.9
463	238	Blenheim Gp	424	- 5	3.1	20.5
318	248	Border TV	270		2.7	
410	355	Bristol	410		4.3	21.9
485	376	**BSkyB**	484	+ 7½	1.3	44.8
188	133	CIA Gp	159		1.1	21.2
27	16¼	Caledonian Med	24			
734	533	Capital Radio	619		2.2	21.3
534	379½	**Carlton Comms**	476		2.6	16.1
558	363	Chrysalis	498		0.7	

OTHER FINANCIAL

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
143	96	Aberdeen Tst	96	- 1	3.6	18.9
118	77	BWD	111		6.1	12.0
40	34½	Berry Bch Nbt	40		2.5	..
345	252	Boilec Inv	286	+ 4		
205	151	Brewin Dolphin	198		4.4	13.9
805	700	Caledonia	748	+ 14	3.8	24.2
2500	1700	Camellia	2400		1.7	30.0
276	213	Cattles	234		3.7	16.8
42	18	Christie	37			
147	90	EFT Group	115		2.3	13.7
725	639	EFM	639	- 1	4.9	15.6
118	85	Exco	87	+ 1	12.9	10.5

BRITISH FUNDS

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
219	215	Treas 2% 1996	219		0.91	5.48
103	101	Conv 10% 1996	101		9.87	5.56
101	100	Treas 7% 1997	101		6.91	5.72
107	103	Treas 13¼% 1997	103 xd		12.76	5.82
104	102	Exch 10½% 1997	102		10.21	5.65
104	102	Treas 8¾% 1997	103		8.49	5.85
114	111	Exch 15% 1997	111		13.51	5.87
106	104	Exch 9¾% 1998	105		9.26	6.13
102	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	101		7.14	6.29
101	94	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100		6.72	6.49
116	113	Treas 14% 1998 01	113		12.37	6.32
122	117	Treas 15½% 1998	118		13.11	6.41
112	111	Exch 12% 1998	111	-	10.76	6.60
108	105	Treas 9½% 1999	106	-	8.93	6.64
116	112	Exch 12¼% 1999	113	-	10.81	6.73
112	108	Treas 10½% 1999	109	-	9.59	6.76
98	96	Treas 6% 1999	97		6.14	6.81
112	108	Conv 10¼% 1999	109	-	9.34	6.93
108	104	Conv 9% 2000	106	...	8.48	7.02
105	101	Treas 8% 2000	103	-	7.75	7.14
124	119	Treas 13% 2000	120	-	10.83	7.12
114	109	Treas 10% 2001	110	-	9.05	7.25
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
101	96	Treas 7% 2001	98	-	7.10	7.32
114	108	Treas 9¾% 2002	110	-	8.80	7.50
105	99	Treas 8% 2003	102	-	7.83	7.57
117	110	Treas 10% 2003	112	-	8.87	7.62
119	114	Treas 11½% 2001-04	115	-	9.92	7.38
83	78	Fund 3½% 1999-04	80	+	4.33	6.63
114	107	Conv 9½% 2004	110		8.61	7.77
95	91	Treas 6¾% 2004	93	-	7.20	7.78
108	101	Treas 8½% 2005	104		8.14	7.83
114	108	Conv 9½% 2005	110	-	8.61	7.83

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
131	123	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126	-	9.91	7.75
101	94	Treas 7½% 2006	97		7.71	7.88
103	96	Treas 7¾% 2006	98		7.85	7.93
104	97	Treas 8% 2002-06	100		7.96	7.89
125	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120 xd	-	9.76	7.68
108	101	Treas 8½% 2007	103	...	8.18	7.96
138	130	Treas 13½% 2004-08	132	-	10.18	7.76
112	105	Treas 9% 2008	107	-	8.37	8.01
104	96	Treas 8% 2009	99	+	8.04	8.06
LONGS (over 15 years)						
88	81	Treas 6¼% 2010	84	+	7.42	8.13
112	104	Conv 9% 2011	107	-	8.37	8.12
113	104	Treas 9% 2012	107	-	8.38	8.15
82	75	Treas 5½% 2008-12	77		7.06	7.93
103	95	Treas 8% 2013	98	-	8.14	8.19
101	93	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	95	..	8.10	8.21
103	95	Treas 8% 2015	98	-	8.15	8.19
111	102	Treas 8¾% 2017	105	-	8.33	8.24
141	130	Exch 12% 2013-17	133	-	8.96	8.28
99	95	Tr 8% 2021	97	-	8.08	8.20
UNDATED						
45	41	War Ln 3½%	42		8.26	
32	29	Treas 2½%	29		8.39	
50	46	Consols 4%	47		8.39	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
115	111	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	113	-	1.04	2.67
180	176	Treas IL 2½% 2001	180	+	2.94	3.51
176	171	Treas IL 2½% 2003	175	+	3.22	3.65
116	112	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	115		3.29	3.88
185	179	Treas IL 2% 2006	183 xd	-	3.39	3.89
167	161	Treas IL 2½% 2009	165	-	3.49	3.74
172	166	Treas IL 2½% 2011	170	-	3.54	3.76
143	136	Treas IL 2½% 2013	140	-	3.56	3.78
157	145	Treas IL 2½% 2016	148 xd	-	3.62	3.80
146	138	Treas IL 2½% 2020	142	-	3.65	3.82
122	115	Treas IL 2½% 2024	118	-	3.66	3.80
120	113	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	116 xd	-	3.66	3.80

Source: FT Information

© USM. # Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

هكذا من الأصل

Hick's Test match future high on agenda

Alan Lee considers who will be selected to face Pakistan at Lord's next Thursday

SOME of the most emotive names in English cricket will arouse debate among the Test selectors this evening as they confront the sensitive assignment of changing a winning team. The futures of Graeme Hick and Phil Tufnell are on the agenda as attention turns to the first of three Tests against Pakistan.

Despite the victory over a limited India team, only six men can be certain of inclusion in the party for Lord's next week. Of these, Dominic Cork is causing concern with his subdued form and Nasser Hussain must pass a fitness test on his damaged finger.

There are more names in obvious contention than for some time, and the make-up of the selection panel, with five highly individual voices, guarantees some diverse views on issues concerning the positions of Alec Stewart and Hick, the identity of the spin bowler, and the last seam-bowling place. The outcome may not be overtly dramatic, but the probationary implications of a reprieve for Stewart and Hick would be obvious.

Their cases are dissimilar. Stewart was left out at the start of the summer and regained his place only through an injury to Nick Knight. As Knight is now fit again, and Stewart has made a valiant though unconvincing case for retention, it follows that Knight, the Warwickshire left-hander, should be restored.

Even this is complicated by alternative cases to be made for Mark Butcher, the left-hander scoring prolifically at the head of the order for Stewart's Surrey, and even for Jason Gallian, Michael Atherton's regular opening partner at Lancashire. Knight, however, has shown a mental aptitude for Test cricket and deserves his chance to show that his technique matches up.

It has been a depressing summer for Hick, but the chances are that he would have kept his place even without his timely runs against Durham yesterday. David Lloyd, the England coach, watched this innings, doubtless with some relief, but Hick can have no illusions as he approaches the series against Pakistan. If he fails against some of the most challenging bowling in the world, he cannot expect to indulge himself against some of the most modest in Zimbabwe and New Zealand this winter.

Such is the strength and scope of the Pakistan attack that England might wisely revert to playing six specialist batsmen for this initial game. Certainly, they should retain such an option by including John Crawley. Like Knight, his Test career has been stalled by injury, but he is batting with encouraging fluency.

Mark Ealham did nothing wrong on his debut at Trent Bridge and will naturally remain in the squad, but he cannot be a confident choice at No 6 against Pakistan. Ronnie Irani, left out of the final XI in Nottingham, may this time make way in the party for Crawley before the discussion turns in earnest to two troublesome bowling positions.

Cork and Chris Lewis will continue to share the new ball, for the time being at least, and Alan Mullally remains the likely choice in support. Despite his admirable ecomony rate against India, however, Mullally's inability to bowl the inswinger to the right-hander is being held against him. Simon Brown remains a notable left-arm rival.

The fair course would be to include Mullally but to add Darren Gough, who is playing his most vibrant cricket since those heady days in Australia two winters ago, to the party as an alternative.

It seems certain that a new slow bowler will appear. Min Patel looked inadequate at Trent Bridge, but there will be various theories as to who should replace him. Ian Salisbury, Richard Stemp, Richard Illingworth, Robert Croft and Peter Such will command a mention; so, too, will Tufnell.

If another slow left-armer is required, there can be little argument that Tufnell is the best available. The endorsements on his overseas licence can hardly avoid consideration and the selectors must agree on whether it makes sense to pick someone for a home Test if they are reluctant to take him on tour.

An off spinner is less attractive, especially if Hick is considered in this regard, and the solution would be to reintroduce Ian Salisbury. He would doubtless profit from playing in a two-man spin attack, but this seems unlikely and England must draw breath and hope that the recent indications of greater consistency in his bowling are not misleading. Of all the spinners in contention, Tufnell included, none is as likely to bowl out a Test side.

My XIII would be: Atherton, Knight, Hussain, Thorpe, Hick, Crawley, Russell, Lewis, Cork, Ealham, Mullally, Gough, Salisbury.

CRICKET

Impressive Knight stakes claim for England recall

By Simon Wilde

EDGBASTON (final day of three): Warwickshire beat the Pakistanis by seven wickets

NICK KNIGHT played his highest first-class innings for two months to guide Warwickshire to a comfortable victory over the Pakistan touring team yesterday and give the England selectors considerable food for thought when they meet this evening to pick the team for the first Test match at Lord's, which starts on Thursday.

Knight's innings earned the county champions a victory which could be the catalyst they need to relaunch their season, but their joy will have been tempered by the announcement of Dermot Reeve's retirement.

Reeve, the inspirational captain during Warwickshire's unprecedented domination of the domestic game, recently underwent surgery on a chronic hip complaint. That has now ruled him out for the rest of the season, one that was always likely to be his last.

Warwickshire moved serenely to their match-winning target of 146 by 2pm thanks mainly to a chanceless, unbeaten 90 off 94 balls by Knight. Although the selectors may be unconvinced that Knight's damaged right hand is strong enough to withstand the rigours of a five-day Test match against a full Pakistan attack, all that can be said is that he coped capably in scoring 135 runs for once out.

Although Waqar Younis batted briefly in the morning, he did not reappear when the Pakistanis took the field. His absence gave Mohammad Akram and Ata-ur-Rehman their chance to stake claims for the third seamer's position in the Test side. Both generated pace off a lifeless pitch but Knight was quick to punish anything wayward.

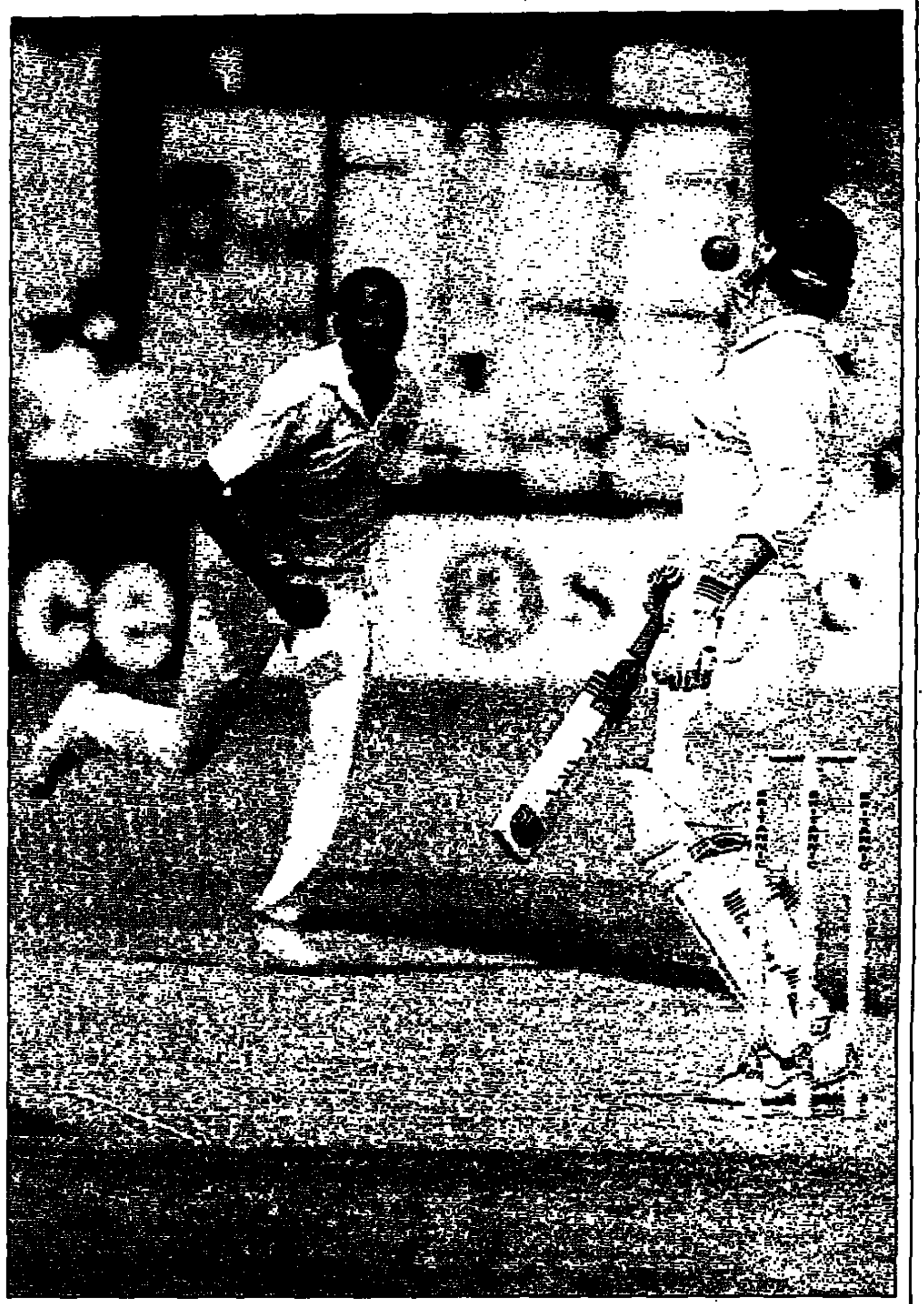
The most impressive thing about Knight's performance, though, was the way he dealt with Mushtaq Ahmed, on whom his side's slender hopes of victory rested. He struck him for six fours and one six and appeared to read him with confidence, a claim that few English batsmen can make — and certainly not Knight's first two partners yesterday.

Anurag Singh, rightly hailed as one of the brightest prospects, took two sumptuous fours off successive balls from Mohammad Akram, but against Mushtaq he was all at sea. His dismissal, leg-before in Mushtaq's fourth over, was a merciful release. Burns, too, struggled before mowing once too often against Aamir Sohail.

Aside from their feeble second-innings batting, the Pakistanis will not be too discouraged by this first defeat of their tour. They were obliged to manage with only three front-line bowlers and some of their batsmen were handicapped by illness. Saeed Anwar went for further blood tests yesterday and he, like Waqar, did not take the field after batting briefly in the morning.

With Saeed caught behind hooking at Altree in the fifth over, and Waqar smartly run out from the covers by Giles in the following over, the Pakistanis added only 11 runs to their overnight score of 147 for eight. Altree finished with five wickets on his second first-class appearance.

Warwickshire will not make a decision on a successor to Reeve until the end of the season, although Tim Munton will fufill the role until then. The club were able to announce that Allan Donald will resume his duties as their overseas player in 1997.



Millns rocks back to avoid a rising ball from Walsh at Cheltenham yesterday

Byas puts Yorkshire in the driving seat

By Jack Bailey

HARROGATE (second day of four): Hampshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 142 runs behind Yorkshire

ST GEORGE'S at its best: the battle moving decidedly in favour of Yorkshire: a first century of the season — and a big one — for David Byas, the Yorkshire captain; another, his second of this campaign, for Anthony McGrath and a first-innings lead of 161: the prospect, if victory is secured, of a place at the top of the championship. All this and Yorkshire's third-highest fourth-wicket partnership of all time. It was enough to make Yorkshiremen everywhere wish they had been here.

In making 272 together, Byas and McGrath failed only to beat the 312 of George Hirst and David Denton, also made against Hampshire, in 1914, and the 299 of Roy Kilmer and Percy Holmes. They also batted uncommonly well.

The cares of captaincy have weighed heavily on Byas, successful though his leadership has been. This was only his third score of more than fifty this season, but you would not have known it, so punishing was his driving.

McGrath, who reached his century with a six, played equally well. He hit two sixes and 20 fours. There was some relief for Hampshire as the second new ball took a toll of batsmen in a hurry, Yorkshire losing their last seven wickets for 34 runs in nine overs.

Much may depend on Robin Smith, who is expected back from the High Court today after being called as a witness in the Imran Khan libel case. Hampshire have a long way to go if they are to turn the tables.

They had their successes during the early part of the day. Cloud cover and the still-hard ball enabled Connor to bring one back off the seam to remove Moxon's off bail via his pad. In the next over, Vaughan was caught at slip by Maru, who was substituting for Smith. The wholehearted Stephenson claimed the wicket of Devon in his first spell and, with Yorkshire on 121 for three, honours rested easy. It was the last time they did.

Hick makes a full set of centuries

GRAEME HICK has had a troubled summer, but he enjoyed a long overdue good day yesterday. The Worcestershire batsman's 88th first-class hundred was notable in that it was claimed against Durham, giving him a full set of championship centuries against the 17 other first-class counties — but more important, perhaps, after his dismal Test series against India, he scored it in front of the England coach, David Lloyd, who was at New Road.

Hick completed his hundred off 161 balls, with two sixes and 15 fours. He finally fell for 150, caught by Ligertwood off Betts, in a total of 302 all out. Durham promptly collapsed in their second innings to 132 for eight and lead by just 70 runs. Another defeat looms.

At Chelmsford, Nottinghamshire, needing 271 to avoid an innings defeat against Essex, were given an encouraging start by Tim Robinson and Paul Pollard, who shared an opening partnership of 133 before Robinson fell for 51. Pollard survived to reach the close on 72 from a total of 152 for one.

Leicestershire flying high

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

CHELTENHAM (second day of four): Leicestershire (20pts) beat Gloucestershire (4) by 102 runs

THEY celebrated as if they were already champions and, in a sense, they must have felt that they were. It may still be July, but Leicestershire now head the county championship after beating Gloucestershire inside two days. This is a rarity in itself, but, in such an open year, they have acquired the confidence to believe that it is more than a fleeting pleasure.

This extraordinary game was over before 5pm yesterday, 40 wickets having fallen for 516 runs. It was played throughout by subservient and often self-destructive batsmen, shuttling on and off stage like inadequate auditioners before a theatrical director. Almost to a man, they forgot their lines.

The pitch had quickened appreciably since Thursday, but its bounce remained reliable, if steeper than the English norm, and its reputation unblemished. Poor batting conspired with high-quality fast bowling to concoct this premature finish, a huge inconvenience to Gloucestershire, for whom today was to have been an important day of corporate and gate revenue.

They have only themselves, or at least their players, to blame. Even when faced with making 239 for victory, easily the highest total of the match, Gloucestershire should have come close. Yet they approached the task like a team bereft of confidence, which is precisely what they are. Their two innings lasted a total of five hours, which was a mockery of the conditions.

By contrast, Leicestershire are flying in the clouds. By this time of year, it is generally possible to tell a team's fortunes and aspirations from their demeanour in the field. Gloucestershire, here, were fatalistic; Leicestershire bounced on their toes, appealed noisily and irreverently and greeted each wicket with an odd session of what they would call team bonding.

James Whitaker is proving himself a motivational captain and resumed batting at start of play with a plainly advertised purpose. Half-an-hour of forthright attack carried the lead close to 200, before he mishooked Walsh to long leg. Adrian Pierson was carrying his nightwatchman duties to an extreme and had not scored for 70 minutes, but Alleyne prised him out while taking the last three wickets for 12.

David Millns had shown, with some authentic blows, that batting was far from impossible, but he now proceeded to make it look extremely difficult when he took the new ball. Devon Malcolm apart, there are few quicker Englishmen bowling today, and Millns could yet win a belated first Test cap if someone sharp is needed to shake up the Pakistan batting.

Phil Simmons, who had a big influence on this game despite failing to score a run, broke a resolute second-wicket stand by dismissing Wright and Hancock in successive overs and, when Symonds betrayed his lack of conviction with a tame dismissal, the slide was irreversible.

The defiant aggression of Lynch and Russell was a mere sideshow. Today they must come back for a full-scale game against the second XI to keep the marquee guests amused. Leicestershire can enjoy a day off in unaccustomed territory.

Thorpe sizzles en route to another century

Thorpe: imposing

By Ivo Tennant

GUILDFORD (third day of four): Sussex, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, need 391 runs to beat Surrey

TO BOWL at Graham Thorpe in his present form is to bowl at the most imposing batsman in the country. He made 130 yesterday, his sixth century of the season, and none of the previous five can have been any better. Sussex, who had managed to avert the follow-on with their last-wicket pair together in the morning, were left to make 451 to win on what remains a decent pitch.

Thorpe, who scored 66 in the first innings, now averages 85.67 this season, which is exceeded only by an Australian in Shane Lee and an Indian in Sourav Ganguly. This is a splendid record and, although the Pakistanis are still to come, he is self-evidently quite capable of sustaining it.

A feature of his batting yesterday was the way in which he picked out different sections of a boundary rope that was never other than well peopled. This is a small ground and more grass has been cropped from the outfield than in past years, but Thorpe still had to time the ball over it. He did so to the extent of striking 14 fours in an innings that lasted for 190 balls.

He and Stewart, who was only a little less authoritative, put on 163 after Jarvis had found a good one to bowl Butcher first ball and then trap Darren Bicknell leg-before. Stewart, who has yet to score a first-class century this season, pulled Salisbury for six and hooked the quicker bowlers in characteristic manner, left leg pivoting well above the ground.

It scarcely mattered that there was a bit of a collapse after Stewart was out for 80, which also included six fours. Of greater concern to Surrey and, indeed, to England, was that Lewis pulled a thigh muscle in slithering into the crease when taking a sharp single. He continued batting until the declaration came but took the field after Sussex began their second innings and did not have a bowl.

Martin Bicknell soon had Lenham taken in the slips. Although the pitch was taking some turn by the afternoon, his brother, Darren, could not repeat his career-best figures of three for seven that he finished with in the morning. He bowls occasional left-arm spin and clearly Stewart will be hard put to prise the ball away from him for the rest of the season. It will be quite a surprise if Surrey do not win today.

Northamptonshire court disaster

By Pat Gibson

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): Middlesex, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 217 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

THE longer John Emburey stayed in the witness box at the High Court yesterday, the better his old county liked it. By the time he got back to the ground, five hours into the day and 46 overs into Middlesex's second innings, Paul Weekes and John Carr had swung the match their way with a third-wicket partnership of 120.

Rob Bailey, the Northamptonshire captain, was seething at the prolonged absence of his potential match-winner on a turning pitch, but it was hard to feel too much sympathy. Northamptonshire knew that Emburey had been subpoenaed to appear in the great libel case and it was their decision to include him in the side once Lord's had given permission for him to come and go as the lawyers wished.

It made for an unreal atmosphere in a match which could be the first to be decided in court. It had already demanded the presence of Harry Brind, the Test and County Cricket Board's inspector of pitches, after 15 wickets had fallen on the first day. He could not find much wrong with it, apart from the fact that it was too dry at the start, and no further action is likely.

Nor should there be. It was good enough for Weekes and Carr to restore Middlesex's self-esteem after they had trailed by 15 runs on first innings and got off to another wretched start when Pooley and Gatting were dismissed in Taylor's opening spell.

Carr made 57 before Emburey had him caught at slip off his second ball but it was too little too late. Weekes, dropped four times, turned on his former colleague with a succession of spanking on drives and was still unbeaten at the close on 133, his highest championship score.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Tetley Challenge Series

Warwickshire v Pakistanis

EDGBASTON (final day of three): Warwickshire beat the Pakistanis by seven wickets

PAKISTANIS: First Innings 297 (Saeed Anwar 131, Inzamam-ul-Haq 51)

Second Innings

*Aamir Sohail c Brown b Altree	4
Ijaz Ahmed st Burns b Smith	52
Asif Mujtaba c Ostler b Smith	34
Inzamam-ul-Haq lbw b Giles	4
†Moin Khan c Ostler b Giles	4
Salim Malik c Burns b Smith	9
Mushtaq Ahmed b Giles	6
Saeed Anwar c Burns b Altree	23
Ata-ur-Rehman c Welch b Altree	1
Waqar Younis run out	8
Mohammed Akram not out	4
Extras (b 5, nb 4)	9
Total	158

FALL OF WICKETS 1-6, 2-89, 3-100, 4-106, 5-106, 6-117, 7-121, 8-141, 9-154

BOWLING Altree 12-1-41-3; Munton 7-2-17-0; Giles 26-13-39-3; Smith 20-5-56-3

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 310 (D R Brown 76, T L Penney 66, Mushtaq Ahmad 7 for 91)

Second Innings

N V Knight not out	90
A Singh lbw b Mushtaq	9
†M Burns st Moin b Aamir	4
D P Ostler b Salim	23
T L Penney not out	7
Extras (b 8, lb 1, nb 6)	15
Total (3 wkts)	148

FALL OF WICKETS 1-48, 2-61, 3-126

BOWLING Mohammad Akram 4-0-21-0; Ata-ur-Rehman 3-0-9-0; Mushtaq Ahmed 10-1-47-1; Aamir Sohail 7-2-29-1; Inzamam-ul-Haq 4-0-24-0; Salim Malik 3-1-9-1

Umpires J W Holder and P Willey

Britannic Assurance county championship

Essex v Nottinghamshire

CHELMSFORD (second day of four): Nottinghamshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 119 runs behind Essex

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 97 (R C Irani 5 for 27, M C Ilott 4 for 31)

Second Innings

P R Pollard not out	72
R T Robinson c and b Law	51
R T Bates not out	10
Extras (b 4, lb 2, w 5, nb 8)	19
Total (1 wkt)	152

FALL OF WICKET: 1-133

BOWLING: Ilott 11-1-22-0; Williams 8-2-22-0; Irani 4-0-21-0; Andrew 3-0-12-0; Such 12-4-26-0; Grayson 11-6-25-0; Law 6-1-18-1

ESSEX: First Innings

G A Gooch c Noon b Afford	91
D D J Robinson c Noon b Bowen	29
A P Grayson b Bates	17
S G Law c Johnson b Afford	45
*P J Prichard c Noon b Evans	80
R C Irani c Afzaal b Bowen	36
†R J Rollins c Johnson b Bowen	0
M C Ilott b Bowen	2
N F Williams not out	34
P M Such lbw b Evans	2
S J W Andrew c Cairns b Bowen	12
Extras (lb 3, nb 17)	20
Total (119.5 overs)	368

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-104, 2-134, 3-190, 4-194, 5-269, 6-271, 7-273, 8-343, 9-345

BOWLING: Cairns 8-3-13-0; Evans 26-5-83-2; Bowen 31.5-3-119-5; Bates 21-1-88-1; Afford 32-14-62-2; Afzaal 1-1-0-0

Bonus points: Essex 8 Nottinghamshire 4

Umpires: D J Constant and G Sharp

Gloucestershire v Leicestershire

CHELTENHAM (second day of four): Leicestershire (20pts) beat Gloucestershire (4) by 102 runs

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 159 (B F Smith 68 not out; A M Smith 6 for 55)

Second Innings

V J Wells lbw b Smith	13
D L Maddy c Symonds b Walsh	14
B F Smith run out	7
A Habib lbw b Walsh	4
P V Simmons lbw b Smith	0
*J J Whitaker c Smith b Walsh	31
A R K Pierson c Russell b Alleyne	16
†P A Nixon c Windows b Walsh	3
D J Millns c Russell b Alleyne	21
G J Parsons not out	10
A D Mullally b Alleyne	1
Extras (b 8, lb 1, w 1, nb 20)	30
Total	150

FALL OF WICKETS 1-37, 2-39, 3-44, 4-48, 5-82, 6-109, 7-114, 8-127, 9-140

BOWLING Walsh 18-6-40-4; Smith 14-2-60-2; Ball 2-0-8-0; Alleyne 8.3-5-12-3; Lewis 5-0-21-0.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 71

Second Innings

M G N Windows c Nixon b Millns	4
A J Wright c Nixon b Simmons	7
T H C Hancock c and b Simmons	18
M A Lynch c Nixon b Mullally	38
A Symonds b Parsons	2
M W Alleyne c Wells b Millns	14
†R C Russell not out	19
M C J Ball b Mullally	11
A M Smith b Mullally	0
J Lewis c Nixon b Mullally	4
*C A Walsh b Millns	4
Extras (lb 5, nb 10)	15
Total	136

FALL OF WICKETS 1-4, 2-30, 3-35, 4-54, 5-98, 6-98, 7-109, 8-109, 9-123

BOWLING. Millns 11.3-3-41-3, Mullally 12-5-22-4; Parsons 10-4-27-1; Simmons 9-2-41-2

Umpires B Dudleston and N T Plews.

Lancashire v Derbyshire

OLD TRAFFORD (second day of four): Derbyshire, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 509 runs behind Lancashire

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

M A Atherton c Adams b Cork	0
J E R Gallian c Rollins b Vandrau	312
J P Crawley c DeFreitas b Wells	54
S P Titchard c Krikken b Harris	96
G D Lloyd run out	7
*M Watkinson c Cork b Barnett	46
†W K Hegg lbw b Vandrau	2
S Elworthy c Krikken b Barnett	13
G Chapple c Jones b Wells	32
P J Martin not out	1
Extras (b 8, lb 6, w 2, nb 8)	24
Total (9 wkts dec)	587

Score at 120 overs 359-3

G Keedy did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS 1-15, 2-100, 3-344, 4-359, 5-429, 6-446, 7-488, 8-574, 9-587

BOWLING: Cork 26-11-62-1, Harris 29-4-91-1, DeFreitas 30-4-120-0, Vandrau 42-5-134-2, Wells 34-7-67-2, Jones 5-1-20-0, Barnett 23-0-73-2

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

K J Barnett lbw b Chapple	12
A S Rollins c Lloyd b Chapple	7
C J Adams not out	37
*D M Jones not out	17
Extras (b 1, nb 4)	5
Total (2 wkts, 22 overs)	78

T J G O'Gorman, C M Wells, P A J DeFreitas, †K M Krikken, D G Cork, M J Vandrau and A J Harris to bat

FALL OF WICKETS 1-20, 2-35

BOWLING Chapple 7-4-17-2; Elworthy 6-2-31-0; Watkinson 5-0-14-0; Martin 4-0-15-0

Bonus points: Lancashire 4 Derbyshire 1

Umpires G I Burgess and A Clarkson

Northamptonshire v Middlesex

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): Middlesex, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 217 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

MIDDLESEX: First Innings 157 (K R Brown 54, J P Taylor 5 for 36)

Second Innings

P N Weekes not out	133
J C Pooley c Fordham b Taylor	3
*M W Gatting c Fordham b Taylor	1
J D Carr c Capel b Emburey	57
P E Wellings not out	31
Extras (b 4, w 1, nb 2)	7
Total (3 wkts)	232

FALL OF WICKETS. 1-17, 2-21, 3-141

BOWLING Taylor 18-6-49-2; Boswell 6-0-13-0; Capel 7-2-19-0; Curran 5-1-16-0; Snape 13-4-37-0; Bailey 8-0-31-0; Penberthy 7-0-20-0; Emburey 12-0-43-1

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

R R Montgomerie c Carr b Fraser	4
A Fordham c Brown b Fay	2
J E Emburey c and b Hewitt	11
*R J Bailey c Brown b Johnson	6
A L Penberthy c Weekes b Tufnell	25
D J Capel c Gatting b Fay	19
K M Curran not out	55
J N Snape c Tufnell b Fraser	29
J P Taylor c Brown b Fraser	4
S A J Boswell c Brown b Fraser	1
†R J Warren c Brown b Hewitt	6
Extras (lb 5, w 1, nb 4)	10
Total (66 overs)	172

FALL OF WICKETS 1-4, 2-10, 3-21, 4-25, 5-53, 6-94, 7-143, 8-147, 9-155

BOWLING Fraser 17-6-28-4, Fay 15-4-45-2, Johnson 6-0-20-1, Hewitt 9-3-20-2, Weekes 11-4-18-0, Tufnell 8-1-36-1

Bonus points: Northamptonshire 4 Middlesex 4

Umpires M J Kitchen and K J Lyons

Surrey v Sussex

GUILDFORD (third day of four): Sussex, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, require 391 runs to beat Surrey

SURREY: First Innings 411 (A J Stewart 74, G J Kersey 68 not out, G P Thorpe 66, M A Butcher 57, P W Jarvis 4 for 82)

Second Innings

D J Bicknell lbw b Jarvis	2
M A Butcher b Jarvis	0
*A J Stewart c Speight b Law	80
G P Thorpe c Wells b Jarvis	130
A J Hollioake b Salisbury	27
C C Lewis not out	29
B P Julian c Moores b Jarvis	0
†G J Kersey not out	18
Extras (b 1, lb 14, w 1, nb 2)	18
Total (6 wkts dec)	304

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-22, 3-185, 4-241, 5-277, 6-277

BOWLING Jarvis 14.3-0-60-4; Lewry 23-2-79-0, Law 10-2-37-1, Giddins 4-1-9-0, Salisbury 20-1-89-1, Greenfield 5-0-15-0

SUSSEX: First Innings

C W J Athey lbw b M P Bicknell	1
N J Lenham c Lewis b M P Bicknell	5
*A P Wells lbw b Julian	84
K Greenfield b Hollioake	11
M P Speight c Kersey b Julian	8
D R Law b Julian	0
†P Moores c Butcher b Julian	2
I D K Salisbury c sub b D J Bicknell	62
P W Jarvis b D J Bicknell	21
J D Lewry b D J Bicknell	0
E S H Giddins not out	7
Extras (b 5, lb 10, nb 12)	27
Total (74 overs)	265

FALL OF WICKETS 1-1, 2-124, 3-150, 4-163, 5-169, 6-170, 7-175, 8-258, 9-260

BOWLING Lewis 17-4-57-0; M P Bicknell 17-4-45-2; Julian 13-0-41-4, Hollioake 15-1-48-1, Pearson 9-1-52-0; D J Bicknell 3-1-7-3

Second Innings

C W J Athey not out	25
N J Lenham c Thorpe b M P Bicknell	9
*A P Wells not out	14
Extras (lb 3, w 5, nb 4)	12
Total (1 wkt)	60

FALL OF WICKET 1-38

BOWLING M P Bicknell 8-5-6-1, Julian 7-0-34-0; Pearson 5-1-9-0; D J Bicknell 4-2-8-0

Bonus points: Surrey 8 Sussex 6

Umpires: R Palmer and B Leadbeater

Worcestershire v Durham

WORCESTER (second day of four): Durham with two second-innings wickets in hand, are 70 runs ahead of Worcestershire

DURHAM: First Innings 240 (P Bambridge 67, S R Lampitt 4 for 57)

Second Innings

S L Campbell b Lampitt	32
S Hutton lbw b Ellis	0
J E Morris c Hick b Ellis	0
P D Collingwood b Sheriyar	8
*M A Roseberry lbw b Sheriyar	1
P Bambridge c Weston b Lampitt	9
†D G C Ligertwood not out	33
M M Betts run out	26
S J E Brown lbw b Sheriyar	1
Extras (lb 3, w 1, nb 18)	22
Total (8 wkts)	132

Gallian: highest score made at Old Trafford

FALL OF WICKETS 1-10, 2-10, 3-24, 4-26, 5-38, 6-73, 7-116, 8-132

BOWLING Sheriyar 13-4-36-3; Ellis 10-2-19-2; Lampitt 8-0-45-2; Moody 10-4-29-0

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

W P C Weston lbw b Brown	6
M J Church b Betts	2
G A Hick c Ligertwood b Betts	150
*T M Moody c Ligertwood b Brown	3
K R Spiring lbw b Brown	0
V S Solanki b Brown	16
†S J Rhodes lbw b Cox	29
S R Lampitt lbw b Brown	24
R K Illingworth c Cox b Brown	23
S W K Ellis not out	14
A Sheriyar b Betts	4
Extras (b 3, lb 12, nb 16)	31
Total (81.3 overs)	302

FALL OF WICKETS 1-8, 2-8, 3-11, 4-11, 5-59, 6-140, 7-209, 8-275, 9-293

BOWLING Brown 27-9-77-6; Betts 19.3-4-85-3; Wood 15-3-73-0; Bambridge 3-0-14-0; Cox 14-5-38-1

Bonus points: Worcestershire 7 Durham 5

Umpires: B J Meyer and P A White

Yorkshire v Hampshire

HARROGATE (second day of four): Hampshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 142 runs behind Yorkshire

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings 266 (K D James 71, M Keech 63)

Second innings

*J P Stephenson not out	1
J S Laney not out	15
Extras (w 3)	3
Total (no wkt)	19

BOWLING Gough 3-1-4-0, Silverwood 3-1-15-0

YORKSHIRE: First Innings

M D Moxon b Connor	38
M P Vaughan c sub b Bovill	43
*D Byas lbw b Bovill	138
M G Bevan lbw b Stephenson	16
A McGrath lbw b Bovill	137
C White c Terry b Connor	5
†R J Blakey c James b Bovill	[illegible]
D Gough b Connor	0
P J Hartley b Bovill	1
C E W Silverwood b Connor	13
R D Stemp not out	0
Extras (b 7, lb 7, w 1, nb 10)	25
Total (109.5 overs)	427

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-91, 2-93, 3-121, 4-393, 5-402, 6-408, 7-410, 8-411, 9-420

BOWLING Connor 23.5-4-97-4; Milburn 9-0-56-0; James 16-2-67-0; Udal 26-8-77-0; Bovill 17-4-58-5; Stephenson 19-3-58-1

Bonus points: Yorkshire 8 Hampshire 6

Umpires: H D Bird and J H Harris

هكذا من الاعلام

MOTOR CYCLING: BRITISH GRAND PRIX COULD TAKE CHAMPION CLOSER TO HAT-TRICK OF TITLES

New image gives Doohan head start

Oliver Holt talks to an habitual winner who has learnt to enjoy success again

HE TOOK his two 500cc world championships with the grim demeanour of a man seeking revenge for a terrible wrong. The triumph over the crippling leg injuries that nearly wrecked his career was indisputable, but the joy had gone out of his riding. Now, though, as he hurtles towards a third successive title, Michael Doohan is having the last laugh at last.

The last motorcyle hero, the last of the great triumvirate that he formed with Wayne Rainey and Kevin Schwantz, Doohan arrived at Donington Park on Thursday to prepare for tomorrow's British Grand Prix, the 99th race of his career. In years past, he has wrapped himself in a cocoon of concentration as soon as he has arrived at circuits. This year, he had his head shaved for charity.

On Thursday afternoon, he sat chatting in his air-conditioned motor home with his girlfriend, Selina, joking about how he needed a haircut anyway. Then, he opened the doors and began an autograph-signing session that seemed as though it would never end. Friends say a change has come over him this year, and Doohan is happy to admit it.

It does not, he says, have anything to do with an easing of frustration at what might have been had he not nearly lost his leg as a result of injuries sustained when he crashed at the Dutch Grand Prix at Assen in 1992. The championship would have been his that year, without a doubt, probably the next year, too.

Although his courage in overcoming his suffering and undergoing countless operations to try to regain mobility in his ankle and toes, was one of the most inspiring feats in sport, it did not bring him his first championship until 1994. He crushed the opposition then, winning nine of 14 races. When he won again last year, he found peace.

"Last year, I was probably more tense than I had been throughout all my career," Doohan said. "It was mainly because I put pressure on myself to achieve what I wanted to achieve. I wanted to win two championships back to back. I didn't want to win a championship and then a couple of years later win another one. If you win something two years running, it shows you must have been fairly dominant in that period.

"I had a couple of crashes early in that season and got misquoted by the press so I just pulled away and let them continue on their track while I continued on mine. But before the beginning of this season I sat down and thought about it and I figured I had to start having fun in the sport again. My approach this year has been that if I did not win another championship, I wasn't going to be upset.

"If I do win another, it will be a bonus but I have done what I set out to achieve. Whether I win two or 20 championships would be the same to me. Now, I just do what I used to do a few years ago which is to go out there and try the best I can. I'm enjoying it more and I think that's rubbing off on the people around me."

Despite this change, Doohan, who rides a Repsol Honda, has always been an amicable, modest man away from the circuit, the antithesis of a brash Australian, a model professional who has the unreserved admiration of his rivals. This year, he has brought more of that side of his persona to work, too.

He will be 32 soon, the age when he always said he would stop racing. He has had eight years in the sport, a period he considers "a good innings", and he talks openly about retirement. Two more seasons after this seems to be the limit of his aspirations.

It will be hard to quit at the top, though. He has had spells of being pressured by Daryl Beattie, his compatriot, and by Alex Criville, his team-mate, but the new generation is still puzzling about how to catch up with the old timer. Doohan leads this year's championship by 57 points from Criville and has won five of this year's eight races.

"My motivation comes from the love to compete and the will to win," Doohan said, "not so much the pat on the back. Pats on the back don't really do anything for me. That's why people take me wrong sometimes. I basically do it just for myself."

MARK THOMPSON/ALLSPORT

Doohan has his head shaved for charity by Randy Mamola, one of motorcycling's most popular former riders

British challenge still in wrong gear

By Nick Szczepanik

MICHAEL DOOHAN, the favourite, posted the second-fastest time, behind Jean-Michel Bayle, from France, in qualifying practice amid the heat, noise, and flying insect life of Donington Park yesterday.

The Midlands, of course, was the home of the British motorcycle industry, and the dominating presence of Japanese manufacturers at Donington these days might strike some as ironic.

Nor are British riders represented in the top ten of any of the three race classes (125, 250, or 500cc), although Darren Dixon and Andrew Hetherington are the favourites for this evening's British Sidecar Grand Prix — a crowd-pleasing event which lacks the status of the other classes.

In the blue riband 500cc event tomorrow, the Briton with the best chance of finishing on the rostrum may be Terry Rymer, from London. Better known for Superbike racing, Rymer has replaced the injured Daryl Beattie, of Australia, the runner-up at Donington last year, in the Lucky Strike Suzuki team, and finished fourteenth in qualifying practice yesterday.

The low profile of motorcycling and motorcyclists in Britain, which some ascribe to a lack of interest in the UK market by major sponsors of the sport, such as Lucky Strike, is by no means universal. Max Biaggi, who leads the 250cc class and will step up to 500cc next season, is second only to Alberto Tomba, the skier, in press coverage of sportsmen in Italy.

Fans were not sorry. "The stars are more accessible," said Michael, from Farnborough, Hampshire. "You can't imagine Hill or Schumacher shaving their heads for charity like Doohan did." His friend, David, agreed that the motorcycle grand prix was more spectator-friendly than the Formula One equivalent. "It's more competitive, with closer finishes. It's not decided in the pits; riders risk everything, and push themselves to the limit," he said.

This affinity extends to the machines: there was much comparing of notes about bikes. "You could buy a world-class superbike in a shop. You couldn't aspire to the car equivalent," David said. A couple from Luton came because they "loved bikes" and had just returned from a two-week holiday which included the German Grand Prix and the Spa 24-hour race in Belgium.

DETAILS

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RANKINGS: 1, M Doohan (Aus, Honda) 166pts; 2, A Criville (Sp, Honda) 109; 3, L Cadalora (It, Honda) 106; 4, A Barros (Br, Honda) 91; 5, N Abe (Japan, Yamaha) 78; 6, S Russell (US, Suzuki) 75; 7, A Puig (Sp, Honda) 62; 8, J-M Bayle (Fr, Yamaha) 60; 9, T Okada (Japan, Honda) 50; 10, C Checa (Sp, Honda) 44.

TRIATHLON

Speed will hold key in the new grand prix

By Ian Sweet

TRIATHLON has to wait until 2000 and Sydney for its Olympic Games debut, but many believe that the future of the sport can be seen this weekend in Koblenz, Germany, where the world's best triathletes race in the first round of the new million-dollar International Triathlon Grand Prix (ITGP).

The best six distance triathletes have never raced each other but the explosive, fast and entertaining new ITGP concept of racing has brought them together for the first time. Spencer Smith and Simon Lessing, Britain's two double world champions, have not raced each other for two years, but they will toe the line alongside Mark Allen, the great competitor from the United States, Brad Beven and Greg Welch, the Australians, and Mike Pigg, another American.

"Triathlon is young and still has growing pains, but with the introduction of the ITGP, I believe it opens out our sport even more to all the different type format races and gives every athlete a chance to succeed. I can see this type of racing being a big part of triathlon for many years to come." Smith said.

The triple super sprint race in Koblenz tomorrow is one of five different formats on the ITGP. The event consists of a 300-metre swim, seven times one-kilometre criterium cycle and a four times 500-metre run will be raced three times in different orders with a 15-minute break between each event, the time starting once the winner of each race crosses the line. This kind of racing is all about speed; speed in the water, speed on a bike and speed on the run, but more importantly speed in the transition.

As a prelude to the racing there was a *D'Terminator* when the competitors undertook two transitions against the clock. Benjamin Sanson, the French swim specialist, was the quickest in 19.52sec, so starts in pole position tomorrow.

FOOTBALL

FA to face legal action over ticket distribution

THE Football Association (FA) is to be asked to pay part of the bill for personal injuries claims by supporters hurt in the crowd troubles at the match between Ireland and England at Lansdowne Road last year.

Judge Esmonde Smyth was told in the Circuit Civil Court that the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) sought an indemnity from the FA on the grounds that it was negligent in the distribution of tickets to England supporters who were known troublemakers.

Hugh Mohan, counsel for the FAI, said his client believed the disturbances were inspired by England supporters in the West Stand who had obtained almost 1,800 tickets through the FA.

The court heard that England supporters were known for riotous conduct at home and abroad and that the ringleaders were known to the FA and the English police. Mr Mohan said that it was the duty and obligation of the FA to control the distribution of the tickets to ensure that they did not fall into the hands of supporters likely to pose a threat of violence.

"That aspect of the distribution of the English tickets was a matter solely and exclusively within the province of the FA and the Irish body had no input or control in respect of it." Mr Mohan said.

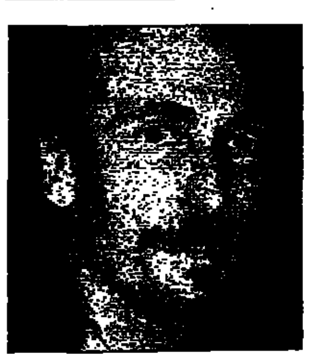
Martin Hayden, counsel for a number of fans injured allegedly because of the disturbances, said that if the FA owed a duty of care to the Irish association then it, in turn, owed such a duty to victims of the riot.

☐ Irish football has suffered another resignation of a leading official. Donie Butler, the commercial manager of the FAI for more than ten years, has tendered his resignation.

In a year which has seen the resignations of the chief executive, Sean Connolly, the treasurer, Joe Delaney, and the national coach, Joe McGrath, this move is another blow to the governing body of the game in Ireland at a time when it appeared to have put its problems behind it.

Why life in Atlanta is short of fun and games

SIMON BARNES



On Saturday

SHUT UP, I don't *want* to have a nice day, I want to find a telephone that works. The Olympic city is in chaos. Well, all Olympic cities exist in a perpetual state of chaos, but of the three Games I have covered, Atlanta is so far in bronze medal position for efficiency. You don't want to hear about the hideous ghastly agonies we press people have gone through to get our accreditation, but we are not alone. Everybody is suffering. Here are some of the highlights:

☐ Fist-fights on the underground trains, oversubscribed and desperately undermanned. "It was ugly at Omni station." "They about came to blows but they didn't have enough room to hit each other." "People started to panic and stampede. They were crying, screaming, going up the down escalator."

☐ Bus drivers manning the Olympic transport system keep leaving, because they are "embarrassed by organisational glitches".

☐ A group of 400 students flew in from all over Europe to work as volunteers. They were put up in a hostel that had no beds.

☐ At least 200 members of the volunteer police force have walked out because of the poor organisation. "Everybody is upset. It's just a big mess." There is also a row within the volunteer police about racism.

All of us here need something to lighten the atmosphere. How about some top quality sport? It all starts today, so let the joy begin.

Rough justice

Meanwhile, one of the great American vignettes opens before us with the case of Michael Irvin, an American footballer with the Dallas Cowboys and winner of the Most Valuable Player award at the Super Bowl. He was involved in a spot of bother when he was caught in his hotel room in Dallas with marijuana, cocaine, two topless dancers and a few friends. Not a man who likes to take a chance when it comes to enjoying himself. He was let off with probation and a fine; Dallas police decided not to try for anything tougher because it would be impossible to get a conviction against a Dallas Cowboy in Dallas.

All of which is weird enough, but this week a former Dallas police officer, Johnnie Hernandez, was indicted in connection with an alleged plot to kill Irvin: he is accused of handing over $2,960 as a down payment for the murder of the errant Cowboy. He stands trial after the Olympics and I wonder what the Dallas jury will make of it all. He could get a 99-year sentence — but perhaps he could get a couple of years off for good behaviour.

Pride of place

The business of pins, their purchase and their swapping, is these days one of the most intensely contested events at the Olympics. Hottest item is, of course, the Gay Pride Olympic pin. Yours for only ten bucks.

Hollow rings

You probably want to know the philosophy behind NBC's planned coverage of the Olympic Games. They have five themes "which correspond to the five Olympic rings". *Passez moi le sick bag*. These are History, Reality, Possibility ("the feeling of self-realization"), Idealism and Patriotism. If you think that means flogging the dead horse of jingoism while dressing it up in claptrap, you must be an awfully cynical person.

Helpful hints

Some personal information about the American swimming team. Ray Carey has a pet snake called "Cool Breeze": Tom Dolan's *nom de guerre* as a disc jockey is Mass Confusion: John Olsen has a chihuahua; Josh Davis "has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ". It's not the thing to criticise a chap's beliefs, but what an odd way to put it.

Red faces

It really must be time for a Marge Schott update. This turbulent old lady, old friend of this column and owner of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team, was barred from the day-to-day running of her club for saying that Hitler was a good guy who just went a little too far. She has now been banned from her stadium altogether; baseball officials believe she is still sneakily making important decisions about the club. She should have sent a memo to all her employees telling them she was no longer running things; instead, she told them: "Contrary to what you may have been led to believe, I am not about to disappear."

She has since sent a message to some of her employees who actually want her back in the stadium. "I miss you and Schottzie 02 does too." Schottzie 02 is Marge's St Bernard. The note was signed "With love, Marge Schott", and a paw-print.

FOR THE RECORD

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (AFL): North Melbourne 17.16 (118) bt St Kilda 4.5 (29).

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 7 Philadelphia 0; Pittsburgh 8 Cincinnati 3; New York 3 Montreal 7; Houston 2 Atlanta 3; St Louis 5 Chicago 6; San Diego 9 Colorado 2; San Francisco 3 Los Angeles 8.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 3 Baltimore 6; Cleveland 5 Minnesota 4; Toronto 8 Detroit 4; Chicago 1 Kansas City 7; Milwaukee 16 New York 4; Texas 4 Oakland 5 (11 innings); California 3 Seattle 15

BOWLS

EASTBOURNE: Open tournament: Singles: Quarter-finals: J Exton bt J Ellis 21-19; C Turrell bt J Preston 21-13; W Letman bt J Hill 21-9; M Place bt S Barton 21-20. Semi-final: Letman bt Place 21-5.

PRINCES RISBOROUGH: Triples championship: Semi-finals: Stony Stratford (M Vickers) bt High Wycombe (G Grace) 18-17. Chandos Park (T Hanger) bt Denham (K Smith) 22-11

DEAL: Kent Fours Championship: Semi-finals: Blackheath and Greenwich (A Thomson) bt Sevenoaks (B Banfield) 27-11; Bexley Hospital (B Warren) bt Milton Regis (D Hoddinott) 27-16.

CRICKET

BAIN HOGG TROPHY (one day): Leicester: Northamptonshire 270-7 (T Bailey 77, M B Loye 50); Leicestershire 246 (I J Sutcliffe 59; J Brown 4-60). Northamptonshire won by 24 runs. Welbeck: Nottinghamshire 204 (J R Wileman 54); Durham 208-4 (J A Daley 54, J Longley 50). Durham won by six wickets.

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (final day of two): Fenner's: Cumberland 280-8 and 208-7 (D J Pearson 82, A D Mawson 55; D F Ralfs 4-52); Cambridgeshire 235 (M A Sharp 4-62) and 139 (N T Gadsby 68; J M Fielding 5-22, M J Parkinson 4-29) Cumberland won by 114 runs.

CYCLING

TOUR DE FRANCE: Nineteenth stage (226km, Hendaye to Bordeaux): 1, F Moncassin (Fr, Gan) 5hr 25min 11sec; 2, E Zabel (Ger, Deutsche Telekom); 3, F Baldato (It, MG Technogym); 4, D Abdoujaparov (Uzb, Refin), 5, M Piccoli (It, Brescialat), 6, S Brasci (It, SAECO); 7, I Cenoh (It, Gewiss); 8, A Tchmil (Ukr, Lotto). 9, A Ferrigato (It, Roslotto); 10, T Gouvenou (Fr, Aubervilliers); 11, F Andreu (US, Motorola); 12, P Induráin (Sp, Banesto); 13, B Boscardin (It, Festina); 14, F Simon (Fr, Gan), 15, J Blijlevens (Holl, TVM); 16, A Baronti (It, Panaria); 17, S Sunderland (Aus, Lotto); 18, F Echave (Sp, Mapei); 19, M Sboni (It, Carrera); 20, L Brochard (Fr, Festina) all same time. British: 24, C Boardman (GB, Gan) same time. Overall: 1, B Riis (Den, Deutsche Telekom) 91hr 8min and 43sec; 2, J Ullrich (Ger, Deutsche Telekom) at 3min 59sec; 3, R Virenque (Fr, Festina) at 4:25; 4, L Dufaux (Switz, Festina) 5:52; 5, P Luttenberger (Austria, Carrera) 6:19; 6, F Escartin (Sp, Kelme) 7:23; 7, P Ugrumov (Lat, Roslotto) 7:48, 8, L Leblanc (Fr, Polti) 8:01; 9, A Olano (Sp, Mapei) 11:12; 10, T Rominger (Switz, Mapei) 11:24; 11, M Induráin (Sp, Banesto) 15:36; 12, P Jonker (Aus, Once) 17:39; 13, B Hamburger (Den, TVM) 19:18; 14, L Pepoli (It, Refin) 19:31; 15, A Elli (It, MG Technogym) 20:48; 16, M Fernandez Gines (Sp, Mapei) 21:37; 17, U Bolts (Ger, Deutsche Telekom) 23:05; 18, M Bartoli (It, MG Technogym) 30:37; 19, Brochard 31:32; 20, E Berzin (Russ, Gewiss) 37:22. British: 43, Boardman at 1:27.33. Points classification: 1, Zabel 313pts; 2, Moncassin 254; 3, Baldato 220; 4, Abdoujaparov 180; 5, Blijlevens 132. Team: 1, Festina 273hr 19min 49sec; 2, Deutsche Telekom at 15min 33sec; 3, Mapei 48:14; 4, Roslotto at 1.14:16hr; 5, Once 1.30:37. King of the Mountains (final standings): 1, Virenque 383pts; 2, Riis 274; 3, Dufaux 176; 4, Brochard 168; 5, Leblanc 158

TODAY: Twentieth stage: Bordeaux to Saint-Emilion, 595.km time-trial. Tomorrow: Final stage: Palaiseau to Paris Champs-Elysées, 144km.

FOOTBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER: Tampa Bay 3 Kansas City 2.

UEFA CUP: Preliminary round, first leg: Barry Town 0 Dinaburg 0; St Patrick's Athletic 3 Slovan Bratislava 4.

GOLF

AGAWUN, Massachusetts: LPGA Friendly's Classic: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): 67: B Burton, M Lunn (Aus). 68: D Pepper, M Platt, M Morris. 69: S Smyers, S Hamlin, A Sorenstam (Swe). 70: C Chillemi, K Saiki. 71: S Redman, C Figg Currier, J Crafter (Aus), N Jeray, R Heiken, D Ammaccapane. Selected scores: 72: H Alfredsson (Swe). 73: A Marie Palli (Fr), T Johnson (GB), C Matthew (GB), S Croce (It). 74: C Pierce (GB), S Maynor (GB), H Kobayashi (Japan), K Davies (GB), A Dibos (Peru). 75: S Strudwick (GB), K Marshall (GB). 76: A Munt (Aus), S Little (SA), D Coe-Jones (Can), B Bunkowsky-Scherbak. 77: P Sinn (S Kor), G Graham (Can). 80: H Dobson (GB).

ROWING

DOGGETT'S COAT AND BADGE (London Bridge to Chelsea): 1, R G Coleman (Ladywell) 23min 45sec; 2, M E Mays (Erith); 3, M Hickman (Welling); 4, M D Spanswick (Mitcham), 5, W R Easterling (Blackheath); 6, D J Burn (Rochester). Cutter Race: 1, Watermen's Company; 2, Port of London Authority; 3, The City Barge, 4, Fishmonger's Company; 5, Company Of Master Mariners.

RUGBY LEAGUE

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERSHIP: Sydney Tigers 10, Canberra Raiders 28.

RUGBY UNION

STUDENT WORLD CUP: Third-place play-off: Argentina 42 Scotland 19.

SAILING

CORK: Ford Week: Sigma 33 national championship (positions after seven races with one discard): 1, St Joan (S Pender); 2, Phoenix (J and H Connelly); 3, Vandaval (D Wilson); 4, Sigmatic II (D Bonner); 5, Harmony (J Vines). Other class leaders: Class 0: Silk 2 (J Waller). Class 1: Innovision III (M McMullen). Class 2: Bengal Magic (B Shaw). Class 3: Midnight Express (T Murphy). Class 4: J H N (J Nesbitt). Class 5: Owl (P Bruce). Class 6: Obsession (B Rose). Class 7: Huntress (P Byrne). Class 8: Phaeton (C Doherty). Class 9: St Joan. Class 10: Highlander (G Logan). Class 11: Lemon (Roche, Dix and Power). Class 12: Pig's Eye (K Slater).

SHOOTING

BISLEY: Elcho Challenge Shield (1,000, 1,100 and 1,200yds, teams of eight): 1, England 1661.163pts (J Pugsley 217.24). 2, Scotland 1656.152 (W Meldrum 214.24); 3, Ireland 1585.111 (P Charlton 203.20); 4, Wales 1553.107 (H Morley 201). Ashburton Shield Schools Rifle Championship: 1, Sedbergh 461pts; 2, Epsom 453. 3, Oakham 443; 4, Victoria College, Jersey 437; 5, Campbell College, Belfast 437. 6, Uppingham 436; 7, Sutton Valence 435; 8, RGS Guildford 433; 9, Bradfield 431; 10, Malvern 431. Cadet Pairs: 1, Cheltenham 120pts, 2, George Heriot's 119; 3, Dollar Academy 118. Cadet Fours: 1, Dollar Academy 222pts; 2, George Heriot's 221; 3, Cheltenham 220. Green Howards Country Life Cup (200 yds): Sedbergh 230pts. Kinder Cup (300 yds): RGS Guildford 255pts. Cottesloe Vase (Small Cadet Corps): Sedbergh 461pts. Schools Aggregate: Sedbergh 1,187pts. Rutland Cup: Sedbergh 624pts. Schools Veterans' Trophy (A teams): 1, Old Marlburians 246.34pts; 2, Uppingham Veterans 246.31; 3, Bradfield 244.34. Dulwich Cup (B teams): 1, Old Epsomians 247.37pts; 2, Old Wellingtonians 238.27; 3, Old Bradfieldians 237.26. Whitgift Cup (C teams): 1, Old Epsomians 239.16pts; 2, Uppingham Veterans 236.21; 3, Old Bradfieldians 234.22. Veterans Aggregate Cup: 1, Epsom 727.79pts; 2, Bradfield 715.82; 3, Wellington 710.75. Astor County Championship Cup: 1, OGRE (Norfolk) 625.91pts; 2, Old Epsomians (Surrey) 625.90; 3, Jersey 618.84.

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Middlesbrough 44 Exeter 52; Sheffield 51 Eastbourne 45; Ipswich 57 Reading 39; London 52 Bradford 44.

TENNIS

STUTTGART: Men's tournament: Third round: M Göllner (Ger) bt D Rikl (Cz) 6-0, 6-3; T Muster (Austria) bt G Blanco (Sp) 6-3, 6-0; A Berasategui (Sp) bt B Ulihrach (Cz) 6-7, 6-1, 6-1; F Clavet (Sp) bt M Gustafsson (Swe) 6-3, 6-1; A Volkov (Russ) bt S Edberg (Swe) 2-6, 6-4, 6-3; A Corretja (Sp) bt C Moya (Sp) 6-4, 6-3; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt M Tillstrom (Swe) 6-3, 7-6, F Mantilla (Sp) bt M Larsson (Swe) 5-7, 6-4, 7-5. Quarter-finals: T Muster (Austria) bt F Clavet (Sp) 6-2, 6-4; A Corretja (Sp) bt A Volkov (Russ) 6-4, 6-3; A Berasategui (Sp) bt M Göllner (Ger) 6-4, 6-2. Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt F Mantilla (Sp) 2-6, 6-0, 6-2.

DIDSBURY: Manchester Challenger: Men's singles: Second round: O Burrieza (Sp) bt C Wilkinson (GB) 3-6, 6-2, 7-6; F Wibier (Holl) bt C Haggard (SA) 7-6, 6-2; L Rehmann (Ger) bt D Sapsford (GB) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; P Tramacchi (Aus) bt R Schuttler (Ger) 6-1, 1-6, 6-3; T Spinks (GB) bt C Beecher (GB) 7-5, 3-6, 7-6, M Petchey (GB) bt R Vasek (Cz) 6-3, 2-6, 6-2; N Gould (GB) bt N Behr (Isr) 2-6, 6-2, 6-3; B Ellwood (Aus) bt D Norman (Bel) 7-6, 7-5

FRINTON-ON-SEA: LTA women's satellite tournament: Quarter-finals: S-A Siddall (GB) bt A Bregel (Ger) 6-2, 6-2; P Nelson (US) bt H Crook (GB) 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; S Indemini (It) bt G Niland (Ire) 7-6, 7-5; S de Beer (SA) bt A Jensen (Aus) 6-3, 6-3.

PALERMO: Women's tournament: Second round: J Kandarr (Ger) wo P Kamstra (Holl); S Dopfer (Austria) bt F Perfetti (It) 6-4, 6-1; B Schett (Austria) bt A Glass (Ger) 6-4, 6-2; S de la Ville (Bel) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 5-7, 7-6, disq.

MAHWAH, New Jersey: Women's tournament: Second round: J Chi (US) wo H Sukova (Cz); L Raymond (US) bt N Louarsabishvili (Russ) 6-4, 6-3; A Huber (Ger) bt A Lettiere (US) 6-2, 6-1

FRINTON-ON-SEA: LTA Reebok Tour: Quarter-finals: Men: P Wekesa (Kent) bt G Saftery (Berkshire) 6-4, 7-5, J Fox (Lincolnshire) bt S Jackson (Cheshire) 6-1, 6-4; J Layne (Hertfordshire) bt D Ireland (Leicestershire) 7-6, 6-3; M Wyeth (Surrey) bt C Bennett (Hereford and Worcestershire) 6-4, 6-4. Women: T Price (SA) bt C Lyle (West Midlands) 6-2, 6-2; N Egorova (Russ) bt F Hearn (Middlesex) 6-3, 6-1; S Munro (Aus) bt E Burton (Aus) 6-2, 6-3; T Samara (US) bt E Langley (Shropshire) 6-4, 6-0.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

South Wales head for Super League

By David Maddock

THE realm of rugby league continues to expand, with the decision yesterday to grant South Wales entry into the Stones Super League after two businessmen offered guarantees of between £2 million and £3 million to bring top-class rugby to the Principality.

The fast-track promotion of the second-division club was approved by the Rugby League Council after talks between Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League (RFL) chief executive, and the two unnamed businessmen, who are providing the financial backing to a plan put together by Mike Nicholas, the Wales national team manger.

Nicholas said last night that South Wales would prove the decision an effective one by quickly becoming a power in the Super League. "It is great news. We have got two guys who want to introduce money and they are looking to put in around £3 million. I put both of them on to Maurice Lindsay and they gave the assurances that they will come up with the cash," he said. "I've said all along there is the potential for the game to expand down here as we proved in the World Cup and will prove again in the Super League."

The promotion of South Wales, based in Cardiff, will take effect from next season, with 13 clubs contesting an expanded division. South Wales will enter the transfer market this summer with a shopping list of big-name players in league and rugby union, with Rupert Moon, Jonathan Callard and Neil Jenkins at the top of the list.

Bradford Bulls must do their best to maintain interest in this year's campaign by winning a difficult game at Warrington this evening. Victory is essential against the side one place below them in the Super League if the Bulls are to maintain a credible challenge for the title, but Warrington have some of the best young players in the game.

RUGBY UNION

Lawyer enters the fray for debenture holders

IF RUGBY Football Union (RFU) officers fail to prevent England's threatened expulsion from the five nations' championship when they meet their opposite numbers from Scotland, Ireland and Wales in Cardiff next Tuesday, a Manchester law firm is preparing to take up cudgels on behalf of angry Twickenham debenture holders (David Hands writes).

"The people I represent are, like me, keen rugby players and followers and they are concerned that their investment in, primarily, five nations' games could be lost." Ian Austin, a partner in the solicitors' firm of Halliwell Landau, said yesterday.

Austin has already written to the RFU on behalf of Rose debenture holders — who are entitled to seats at Twickenham until 2003 — seeking reassurance that England's expulsion is "mere speculation". He is unimpressed by the two-paragraph response from the RFU's solicitors.

"The RFU has pursued a strategy which, if they continue with it, may result in their being kicked out," Austin said, referring to the broadcasting agreement the union has made with satellite television. "We take the view that this conduct places [the union] in breach of implied or collateral terms or warranties of the debentures and effectively results in the RFU seeking to derogate from their grant."

Austin believes his clients could be entitled to substantial damages if Twickenham no longer hosts five nations' internationals and he expects other debenture holders to take action if Tuesday's meeting fails to resolve the issue.

GOLF: SECOND SUCCESSIVE ROUND OF 68 KEEPS OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP FAVOURITE IN STRONG POSITION TO MOUNT CHALLENGE

Faldo relishes new role as people's choice

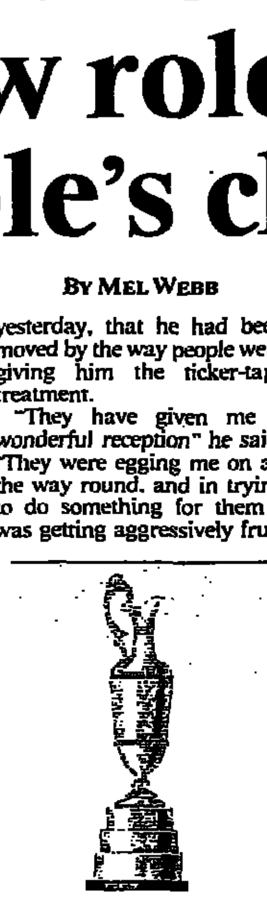
By Mel Webb

SEVE, the people's champion? Try another name for size — Nick Faldo. Faldo has not quite conquered the golf course at Lytham this week, although he is working on it, but it is beyond doubt that he has won over the folk behind the ropes. He has never been more popular on this side of the Atlantic — and he is patently enjoying every second of it.

Faldo has long been recognised as the dedicated professional, the master grinder, the constant seeker of perfection. For most of his professional life, he has also been an infuriating mixture of openness, suspicion, charm, gracelessness and 1,001 other contradictions.

Those who know him well talk of his constancy as a friend, of a wicked sense of humour at the dinner table, and yet the public perception of him has remained guarded in the extreme. An easy man to respect, perhaps, but at once one who is difficult to like very much. Well, something has happened, and the result is a new-found and mutually-enjoyed affection beyond player and spectators. Even he admitted, after his second 68 of the championship yesterday, that he had been moved by the way people were giving him the ticker-tape treatment.

"They have given me a wonderful reception" he said. "They were egging me on all the way round, and in trying to do something for them I was getting aggressively frustrated out there at times. I am enjoying it very much — they have created a great atmosphere and that is what we want. It makes the adrenalin flow, and it is great to try to do it for them. When there are 20,000 cheering for you, it's quite moving. It is impossible to keep totally calm, but that's all right — I am very grateful to everybody."



THE OPEN

To be fair, the gallery who grabbed his coat-tails and were whistled along like children behind the Pied Piper had something to cheer about. With no more than 24 inches of luck on his side, he could easily have had many more birdies than the four he got, so narrowly did he miss shot-saving putts at seven of the 14 holes from the 4th.

For the second day running, he played the much more troublesome back nine holes very well: perhaps the extra degree of difficulty in the home stretch brings out the best in this most singular of golfers.

Lytham has been at its most defenceless this week; again there was barely a whisper of wind to disturb the buckthorn trees for the duraton of Faldo's round. On a calm day, even the greatest of links courses are vulnerable to attack. Attack Faldo did, from the moment he strode purposefully up the first fairway with that characteristic, slightly stiff-legged walk of his, looking not a little unlike a younger Harrison Ford. On this day, however, Lytham was no Temple of Doom for Faldo's Indiana Jones.

His first birdie came on the 4th, where he hit a marvellous second shot in to seven feet and made the putt. Two holes later he rescued an unusually-wayward tee shot with the second and third strokes of a maestro. A birdie was the result — to many, a bogey or worse might have been the punishment.

The 10th was brought to its knees with a 20-foot putt after another fine mid-wedge shot and his only failure came on the short 12th where he three-putted from 40 feet for a bogey. His final punishing act in a clinical display of aggressive golf came on the 16th, where he holed from 25 feet.

Faldo is obviously in good heart — "I am judging the bounce well on the course, and giving myself lots of chances; that is the key for the weekend," he said — and he will take some stopping in the last two rounds. He is committed to attack — his people on the other side of the thin yellow line that divides them will not settle for less.

☐ Bernhard Langer withdrew from the championship before the second round after a shoulder injury contributed to his poor first-round score of 75.

EARLY SECOND-ROUND SCORES

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated

134: P McGinley 69, 65, T Lehman (US) 67, 67
135: J Nicklaus (US) 69, 66, P Hedblom (Swe) 70, 65; E Els (SA) 68, 67
136: V Singh (Fiji) 69, 67; C Pavin (US) 70, 66, N Faldo 68, 68, M McCumber (US) 67, 69; P Harrington 68, 68, M O'Meara (US) 67, 69; L Roberts (US) 67, 69
137: M Brooks (US) 67, 70, F Couples (US) 67, 70
138: S Maruyama (Japan) 68, 70, D Clarke 70, 68, C Mason 68, 70; D Gilford 71, 67; M James 70, 68, H Tanaka (Japan) 67, 71
139: J Furyk (US) 68, 71, P Mitchell 71, 68; R Mediate (US) 69, 70, B Hughes (Aus) 70, 69, J Maggert (US) 69, 70, G Norman (Aus) 71, 68
140: S Simpson (US) 71, 69, M Calcavecchia (US) 72, 68; M McNulty (Zim) 69, 71, A Cejka (Ger) 73, 67, A Lyle 71, 69; B Faxon (US) 67, 73
141: E Romero (Arg) 70, 71; C Rocca (It) 71, 70, * T Woods (US) 75, 66, B Crenshaw (US) 73, 68, N Price (Zim) 68, 73, T Hamilton (US) 71, 70, J Parnevik (Swe) 72, 69, G Turner (NZ) 72, 69; S Stricker (US) 71, 70
142: R Boxall 72, 70, M Jonzon (Swe) 69, 73; F Nobilo (NZ) 70, 72, C Stadler (US) 71, 71, C Suneson (Sp) 73, 69; D A Russell 70, 72; R Allenby (Aus) 74, 68, B Mayfair (US) 70, 72, P Jacobsen (US) 72, 70; D Frost (SA) 70, 72; J Haas (US) 70, 72
143: D Duval (US) 76, 67, B Ogle (Aus) 70, 73, B Barnes 73, 70; J Daly (US) 70, 73, S Ames (Trin) 71, 72; P Mickelson (US) 72, 71; C Strange (US) 71, 72; R Goosen (SA) 72, 71, R Todd (Can) 74, 69, G Law 74, 69; D Hospital (Sp) 75, 68, K Eriksson (Swe) 68, 75, A Langenaeken (Bel) 72, 71, P Stewart (US) 70, 73, T Tolles (US) 73, 70, R Charles (NZ) 71, 72, T Kite (US) 77, 66, D A Weibring (US) 71, 72, H Clark 72, 71, J Payne 72, 71.
144: S Luña (Sp) 72, 72; B Lane 71, 73, M Farry (Fr) 70, 74; P Walton 72, 72; S Grappasonni (It) 71, 73, R Willison 72, 72, D Feherty 77, 67, S Torrance 72, 72; B Estes (US) 73, 71
145: W Austin (US) 72, 73, S Elkington (Aus) 75, 70, C Parry (Aus) 74, 71; J Coceres (Arg) 72, 73, J Rivero (Sp) 74, 71, F Zoeller (US) 70, 75, L Westwood 71, 74, P O'Malley (Aus) 73, 72.
146: * W Bladon 73, 73; A Coltart 72, 74, M Mackenzie 71, 75; R MacFarlane 73, 73, S Jones (US) 73, 73, Y Kaneko (Japan) 73, 73, P Senior (Aus) 74, 72, P Eales 73, 73
147: T Price (Aus) 77, 70; J Leonard (US) 79, 68; S Higashi (Japan) 75, 72; P-U Johansson (Swe) 70, 77, G Brand Jr 72, 75; G Player (SA) 71, 76, I Woosnam 75, 72, S Tinning (Den) 72, 75, C Montgomerie 73, 74; A Forsbrand (Swe) 75, 72.
148: S Bottomley 76, 72; M Florioli (It) 71, 77, D J Russell 77, 71, W Westner (SA) 78, 70
149: S Cage 74, 75; T Herron (US) 74, 75, J Robson 75, 74; * S Garcia (Sp) 76, 73; T Bjorn (Den) 73, 76; W Riley (Aus) 73, 76, J Haeggman (Swe) 72, 77
150: A Oldcorn 77, 73, J Townsend (US) 72, 78, B Watts (US) 80, 70.
151: L Janzen (US) 74, 77; P Azinger (US) 74, 77, M Hallberg (Swe) 79, 72
152: R Tway (US) 79, 73; S Ballesteros (Sp) 74, 78
154: G Brown 74, 80.
155: P Lawrie 78, 77.
157: K Fukunaga (Japan) 76, 81
162: I Baker-Finch (Aus) 78, 84.
Withdrew: B Langer (Ger).
Disqualified: M Campbell (NZ).

** denotes amateur*

JULIAN HERBERT

Faldo, who has won the backing of the crowd at Royal Lytham this week, lines up a putt on the 17th yesterday

Player proves short on finesse

Patricia Davies sees three of golf's little big men experience contrasting fortunes

It was a vertically challenged three-ball with a ready-made theme song. Ian Woosnam, Gary Player and Corey Pavin, who would just about make one Nick Faldo between them if inches were the yardstick, are not tall by any stretch of a definition. They were undoubtedly just the size of person Randy Newman, the towering American songwriter, had in mind when he wrote *Short People*, a funny if disparaging ditty about those members of the population who failed to sprout.

After the tiny trio's outing at Royal Lytham yesterday, Pavin, an insubstantial-looking 5ft 9in, reckoned the bookmakers would give long odds against him ever being the tallest man in a group.

Yet with 11 major championships between them, they stand tall. Player, at 60 an increasingly stooped 5ft 7in (as a youngster he did exercises in an effort to extend himself), has nine of them, including three Open titles, the last of which he won here in 1974.

An opening 71, level par, led to hopes that the fabled black knight of the fairways (dressed in Air Force blue yesterday) might make the cut for the second successive year, but, after going out in 34, one under par, his second nine was a catalogue of bogeys — seven in all — and a total of 147 was too much.

Even the famed golden touch from sand was more a base-metal version in that he got up and down from bunkers only once in seven attempts. Admittedly, most of the bunkers at Lytham are fearsome holes into which even a Player of standing is prone to disappear from view, but it was still a shock to see him airmail the green from a greenside bunker at the 6th and finish under the stand. Some of his later bunker shots drew warm applause but only one, from a pot at the 8th green, led to a par.

'They stand tall with 11 majors among them'

All the way round, Player fretted about the crowd, the marshals, the scorers, the big Swede who raked the bunkers, the odd journalist scribbling, the television soundman, the radio people — nothing was to his satisfaction. Newman's line about "little voices going peep, peep, peep" came to mind.

"He's got peripheral vision," the referee, who sported a smart pair of New Zealand Golf Association cuff links, explained sympathetically. "He's so rude," was a less kindly opinion. "What a prima donna. The other two just get on with it."

Perhaps it was a small man's Napoleonic tendency — a penchant to be in control. Or Player could just have been out-of-sorts. "I've been playing badly for three weeks," he said. "I can't put my finger on it. It's a little bit of paralysis by analysis." And with that, he headed off to the practice ground.

Woosnam, the shortest of them all at 5ft 4½in but the most powerful, just went home. The little Welsh dragon (a fan's description) with the Hippo bag, Maxfli DP 30 Australian blade irons, wayward driver and balky putter needed the breaks after his hack-along eight at the 17th on Thursday and he did not get them. He matched Player's 147 with a hard-fought 72 and it was left to Pavin, the US Open winner last year, to boost the shorty challenge with a 66 that featured seven birdies.

"It's just as well he can putt," someone said unkindly, but Pavin, with all his mannerisms, kept out of trouble, a tall order around here. Of course, he also had the ultimate in height advantage: his caddie, Eric Schwarz, is 6ft 5in.

Lost touch cuts Scot down to size

By Mel Webb

IF COLIN Montgomerie had won the Open Championship this week and Greg Norman failed to finish either second or third, Montgomerie would have gone to the top of the Sony world rankings. As it transpired, making the cut was not even on the agenda for Montgomerie, let alone winning.

Montgomerie, European No 1 for the past three years, had a 74 to add to his first-round 73 and his total of 147, five over par, saw him four shots over the cut mark.

"It just happens," he said disconsolately. "I tend to leave my worst rounds of the golf year to the third week in July. But I must not worry. It has not hurt me before and it won't hurt me this time."

Montgomerie said the longest putt her had holed in two days was one of 3½ feet at the 6th on Thursday. Was it my main problem? he said. "What do you think?"

It was with a sort of sad predictability that Severiano Ballesteros made an early departure — his total of 152, ten over par, was 14 shots worse than when he won the title the last time the championship came to Lytham in 1988. "The reaction of the spectators was the only positive thing about this week," he said. "They were very special, on every hole, every tee, every green. I tried my best, but it just did not happen. Everything went wrong.

"I played well for the first six holes but then nothing went right. But I must be patient, keep working on my game and one day it will come back. It is disappointing to miss the cut in the Open, but when it happens at Lytham it hurts that bit more."

Among other notables to wend their way dejectedly from the Fylde last night were Ian Woosnam, Gary Player, winner at Lytham in 1974, and Sam Torrance. The damage was done to Woosnam's chances when he had a double-bogey six and a quadruple-bogey eight in his 75 in the first round. Player finished on the same mark of five over par and Torrance dropped four shots in three holes from the 13th yesterday.

Sergio Garcia, 16, the European amateur champion, saw his tournament come to an end when he had a 73 for a 36-hole total of 149. But Garcia will still take fond memories of his first Open Championship away with him. On Thursday evening, he was all smiles as he posed for a photograph with his family and friends on the steps of the Royal Lytham clubhouse.

FOOTBALL: CHAMPIONS AGREE HIGHER FEE FOR CZECH INTERNATIONAL

United close to sealing Poborsky deal

By David Maddock

KAREL POBORSKY, the Czech Republic midfield player, will fly into England early next week to complete his transfer to Manchester United for an increased fee of £4 million. Maurice Watkins, United's legal director, confirmed yesterday that lengthy and, at times, frustrating negotiations were near to completion.

"Things are progressing and we expect to see the player in Manchester early next week," he said. The deal was delayed when Slavia Prague, Poborsky's club, received an offer more lucrative than the £3.5 million United had originally agreed. Poborsky is likely to make his debut in a pre-season match in Ireland next weekend.

His arrival could signal the end of Lee Sharpe's career at Old Trafford. The England winger had discussions with Alex Ferguson, the United manager, over his future last season and the arrival of Poborsky puts him under more pressure. Tottenham Hotspur and Coventry City are monitoring developments and Tottenham have made a formal inquiry. Coventry yesterday signed Michael O'Neill, the Hibernian winger, for £300,000.

One player who will not be at White Hart Lane to welcome Sharpe, should he arrive, is Erik Thorstvedt, who was due to link up with Wolverhampton Wanderers today at their training camp in Salzburg. The 33-year-old Norway international goalkeeper is expected to finalise his free transfer as the first division club prepares for a tour of Austria and Germany.

Bogdon Stelea, who played for Romania in the European championship, is another in-demand international goalkeeper. Peter Reid, the Sunderland manager, is hoping to give Stelea, who is out of contract at Steaua Bucharest, a permanent home at Roker Park after he impressed during a loan spell.

In the High Court, the action by Peter Gilman, the Leeds United vice-chairman, against Bill Fotherby, the club's chief executive, and Lesley Silver, its former chairman, was held over until Monday. Gilman is contesting the sale of the club to the Caspian group.

Dan McCauley, the chairman of Plymouth Argyle, is selling the club. He is, he said, weary of the criticism he has endured.

CYCLING

Moncassin steals Zabel's limelight

By Our Sports Staff

FREDERIC MONCASSIN won a close mass sprint to record his second stage victory of this year's Tour de France yesterday. Moncassin, of France, narrowly beat Erik Zabel, of Germany, and Fabio Baldato, of Italy, into second and third place at the end of the nineteenth stage, a flat, 226.5-kilometre ride from Hendaye.

Zabel had victory in sight, but the 27-year-old from Toulouse rushed past him in the final few metres to win by half a wheel. Moncassin, who had won the first stage on June 30 in the Dutch city of Den Bosch, had been overshadowed since by the powerful Zabel, winner of two stages in Nogent-sur-Oise and Gap. The Frenchman took his revenge in style by depriving Zabel of a second successive win in the stage in Bordeaux.

The outcome brought no changes to the leading overall standings. Bjarne Riis, of Denmark, is still firmly in command two days before the end of the race in Paris on Sunday. Riis received his fresh yellow jersey from the French Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, who is the mayor of Bordeaux. However, it was not just the finish that was being talked about after the finish.

A local rugby team spiced up the middle section of the stage when they paraded along the route equipped with only fig leaves as protection against the sun.

Riis still holds a comfortable lead of 3min 59sec over Jan Ullrich, of Germany. Riis, 32, has little to fear from the 63.5-kilometre time-trial from Bordeaux to Saint-Emilion today and the traditional final parade on the Champs-Elysées tomorrow should see him crowned as the first Dane to win the race.

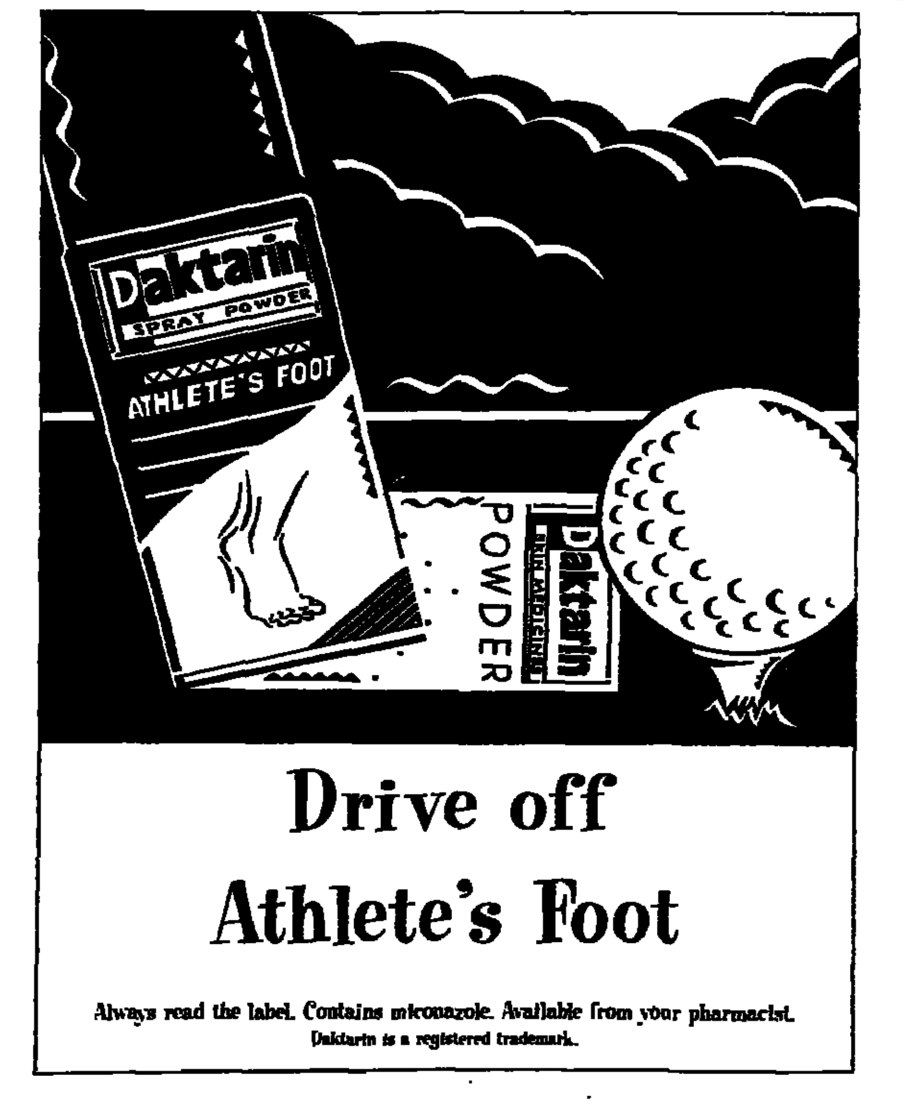
Yesterday's ride, in stifling heat through the Landes forest, came to life in the last 40 kilometres when Gilles Talmant, of France, and Marc Wauters, of Belgium, managed to escape. They built a lead of up to two minutes but the sprinters' team-mates then led the chase and reined them in five kilometres from home.

"I arrived a bit later than I wanted to but it didn't matter in the end," Moncassin said. "I stayed behind the other sprinters because I felt good and I knew I could finish strongly. I'm delighted to win here. The Bordeaux stage is often one for sprinters and I certainly wanted to fare well in it."

Riis, who stayed safely within the pack, said he would love to underline his dominance Tour by winning today's stage. "I have better morale than the other riders and it would be a good way of finishing the Tour," he said. He can expect little trouble from the last stage in Paris, which usually ends in a sprint.

☐ Eddy Merckx, five times a winner of the Tour, was made a baron in Belgium's National Day honours list yesterday. Merckx, who retired 18 years ago, was granted the honour by King Albert.

Results 41



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22 JUL	PREMIER PROPERTIES PLC	FERNDOWN	16
23 JUL	GRANT THORNTON	DENHAM	38
23 JUL	PINNACLE TRUSTEES LIMITED	CASTLE ROYLE	20
23 JUL	RANGER OIL (UK) LIMITED	THE WISLEY	16
24 JUL	CALL CONNECTIONS LTD	FOREST OF ARDEN	70
24 JUL	MEESPIERSON NV	LINDRICK	30
25 JUL	BARKERS INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS LTD	BEDFORDSHIRE	40
25 JUL	COOPERS & LYBRAND	ARCOT HALL	55
25 JUL	GREENWOODS SOLICITORS	ELTON FURZE	32
25 JUL	KERR MCGEE OIL (UK)	HARLEYFORD	48
25 JUL	MILLS ASSOCIATES LTD	ROLLS OF MONMOUTH	24
25 JUL	PAULL & WILLIAMSONS	DEESIDE	40
25 JUL	WHYTE & MACKAY	PATSHULL PARK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	48
26 JUL	ALSOP WILKINSON	STOKE POGES	40
26 JUL	ARCHER LEISURE	EFFINGHAM	36
26 JUL	ARMSTRONG WATSON & CO	MATFEN	35
26 JUL	AXA EQUITY & LAW	DISS	50
26 JUL	DFDS TRANSPORT LTD	WITHINGTON	40
26 JUL	DRAKES GROUP LTD	NAZEING	60
26 JUL	MORLEY GROUP LTD	TYNESIDE	40
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GOLF: IMPRESSIVE HARRINGTON EARNS HIGH PRAISE AS AMERICANS MOUNT POWERFUL CHALLENGE IN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Couples tops bill with mixture of magic and farce

MICHAEL HENDERSON

At Royal Lytham and St Annes

FRED COUPLES was unavailable for interview last night, which did not surprise anybody. After a brush-up and change of costume, he went off to Blackpool's North Pier, where, at the "second house", he performed feats that would have thrilled the mysterious Mr Kite the Beatles used to sing about. The audience was still calling for more at midnight.

Lucky punters, you might think, to see such a harlequin at work — except he had already given a spiffing show over 18 holes six miles down the road. In view of what unfolded on the second afternoon of this Championship, Couples should really have been introduced on the 1st tee by Leonard Sachs, complete with gavel and preposterous adjectives. It was a performance and a half and it is doubtful that even he knows how he managed to complete it without either bursting with laughter or weeping buckets.

The facts reveal that he went round in 70, one under par, and now stands at five under overall. It is a respectable position and he may improve it considerably today, but, for four hours yesterday, under another baking sun, he added to the gaiety of the galleries with an eye-popping turn. He really ought to have played an extra hole as an encore.

He went out just as Jack Nicklaus came in and his morning hopes were of keeping the Stars and Stripes flying high. What little he knew! The previous day, he gave voice to the thought "I like it rough" and, if the course and conditions could not oblige him, the valkyries that guard golfers took him exactly at his word.

In the first three holes, he dropped three shots and looked like a man who had reached for the sugar and put salt in his tea. Amazingly, he got them back in the next two holes, with an eagle at the par-five 7th after a six-iron got him within five feet of the pin. This was giddy stuff. Couples could make no more sense of it than Mark McCumber or Padraig Harrington, fellow travellers on this magic carpet ride.

At the 10th, he sank a 20-foot putt and after 13 holes he had rallied magnificently to go seven under. Yet bogies on the 15th and 17th holes cost him a glorious chance to cut into the lead Nicklaus and others had built, no matter how hard he rattled those chains. It was an ordinary end to an extraordinary round and he went off looking dog-tired.

McCumber was also a disappointed man. Birdies at the 2nd, 5th, 6th, 11th and 12th holes took him nine under, but he dropped shots on four of the last six to finish on 69, six under for the tournament. "It's not the way you want to finish," he said later, "but those are testing holes. If you'd said I'd be six-under and in the top ten after 36 holes, I'd have definitely taken it.

"The Americans all want to play well here, just like the top Europeans all want to do well when they come to play majors in America. Golf is now an international game. I love playing in Scotland and England and I played with a young Irishman today who has a lot of talent."

Harrington, a 24-year-old Dubliner, is 20 years younger than the man who spoke of him in such warm tones. It was evident from the easy way the players mixed on the course that they were enjoying themselves and Harrington has hardly suffered by comparison in his first Open alongside these magnanimous Americans. When he sank a birdie at the 12th from 15 feet, McCumber openly applauded his audacity. That was the spirit in which this threesome was conducted.

"I couldn't have asked for two nicer guys to play with," Harrington said. He chipped into the 18th hole from a bunker to bring down the curtain on a bizarre, enthralling round. With his youthful looks and straw boater, he resembled a sap from *Salad Days*, but there was nothing of the *ingénue* about his golf. He, too, is six under par and can sleep easy, for he has put down a marker for the future.

With his approach shot to the final hole, McCumber struck the clubhouse wall, the ball rebounding on to the green. "I thought it was flying right through the window, and into someone's beer!" he jested. Actually, it missed a crouching figure by 18 inches, no more, and if anybody suggests I was sleeping I shall take Imran Khan's route to the High Court.

It was a memorable day and, with Nicklaus playing like a man half his years, Els ready to charge and Faldo poised like a big cat, it is shaping up to be a memorable Open — though, in their different ways, they all are. Now let's see what stunts The Amazing Mr Couples can pull off today.

Couples offers a helping hand to an attempted birdie putt yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Nicklaus doffs his cap in acknowledgement of the gallery's standing ovation at the 18th hole yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Sublime Nicklaus rolls back the years

By John Hopkins

THE OPEN

As Jack Nicklaus walked into the amphitheatre of the 18th green and acknowledged the standing ovation he received from spectators in the tiered grandstands on both sides, one wondered which was the greater: his golf or his telephone bill?

After a delightful morning's golf, Nicklaus had a short putt for a 65, six under par, which would have put him into a tie for the lead with Paul McGinley. Yet the fact that he was able to play at all was due to several hours' worth of telephone calls to Pete Egoscue, an anatomical functionalist in San Diego.

To be with Nicklaus, who started just after 8.30 yesterday morning, was to be taken back in time. The years peeled away like onion skins. You could not believe that this man was 56 because he was playing as if he was 26. He rapped in putts with confidence and, though his pitching and chipping were once the weakest parts of his game, on this glorious sunlit morning he pitched with the touch of a Severiano Ballesteros.

Egoscue, a former Marine with an expert knowledge of the body, was the man who had got Nicklaus's back out of a series of spasms on Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Nicklaus has consulted him for a number of years, and after the two long telephone calls before Nicklaus's first round, he received a 20-page fax from Egoscue yesterday morning.

From the start, Nicklaus looked more relaxed than he had the previous day and when he hit his first shot to six feet and holed the putt, it was clear it was going to be a round of some consequence. Nicklaus is at heart a conservative and he used his driver on the outward half only on the two long holes and on the 11th, 14th and 15th on the homeward half.

Though he gave up a lot of distance to Brand and Shigeki Maruyama, his playing partners, he outscored them both. It did not take long to realise why he kept his driver in his bag for most of the morning. He was uncertain with it. On the 11th, he hooked his tee shot and was lucky to find his ball sitting up well. Only on the 15th did he hit a solid, and straight, drive, and then his ball ran into a bunker.

To watch Montgomerie one day and Nicklaus the next was to be reminded of the virtues of the latter that the former could adopt. Nicklaus was at ease with himself, a performer on stage, in command of everything. He was completely focused on the task in hand, even if his poor eyesight meant that he could not always see it.

As he drove on the 12th he ignored the noise of spectators passing by in the copse around the members' tee. As he attempted to hole a nine-foot putt on the 13th, one that caught the side of the hole and veered away, he seemed oblivious to noise coming from the left of the green. Even when he hit a bad tee shot on the 11th he kept himself in check, limiting his outburst to nothing more profane than: "Oh Jack! Good gracious."

When he was hunched over his putt on the 15th a train rattled along in the distance. Nicklaus did not flinch, his concentration seeming as great as Joyce Wethered's had been in a now famous golfing incident. A train passed the 17th at Sheringham as she putted in the 1921 English Amateur. "What train?" she replied, when asked if she had been disturbed. Montgomerie would benefit from some of Nicklaus's imperturbability.

Nicklaus's wish for today is to be able to get out of bed with two feet on the ground and remain like that. The wish of everyone who followed him yesterday, and a good many who did not, is that he can play in his third round as he did in his second. Yesterday, Nicklaus lit up the Open. Yesterday, Nicklaus was a hero once again.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0: third day of four, 104 overs minimum
CHELMSFORD: Essex v *Nottinghamshire*
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Derbyshire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Middlesex
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Durham
HARROGATE: Yorkshire v Hampshire
11.0, final day of four, 96 overs minimum
GUILDFORD: Surrey v Sussex
Tetley Challenge Series
11.0, first day of three
CANTERBURY: Kent v Pakistanis
Tour match
11.0, first day of three
TAUNTON: Somerset v South Africa A
UNDER-19 ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Trent Bridge: England v New Zealand (10.45).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Super League
Paris Saint-Germain v Wigan (7.30) .....
Warrington v Bradford Bulls (6.0) ....

FOOTBALL

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Camberley v *Reading (3.0)*; *Cork v Manchester City* (7.30); Macclesfield v Chester (3.0).

OTHER SPORT

CYCLING: National Time Trial Series (fourth round, 31 miles, Ickleton, 3.0). Brough Wheelers Ten Miles (North Cave, 2.0).
GOLF: Open Championship (Royal Lytham and St Annes).
SPEEDWAY: Premier League (7.30): Bradford v London; Coventry v Scottish Monarchs; Eastbourne v Peterborough; Swindon v Ipswich. Conference League: Mildenhall v Sittingbourne (7.30).
TENNIS: Men's tournament (Manchester)

Tomorrow

CRICKET

AXA Equity & Law League
2.0, 40 overs
CHELMSFORD: Essex v *Nottinghamshire*
CHELTENHAM: Gloucestershire v Leicestershire
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Derbyshire
GUILDFORD: Surrey v Sussex
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Durham
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Hampshire
2.10, 40 overs
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Middlesex
Tetley Challenge Series
11.0, second day of three
CANTERBURY: Kent v Pakistanis
Tour match
11.0, second day of three
TAUNTON: Somerset v South Africa A
MCC TROPHY (50 overs): Semi-finals: Warrington: Cheshire v Buckinghamshire. Dunstable: Bedfordshire v Wales.
MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of two): Colwyn Bay: Wales v Devon.

RUGBY LEAGUE

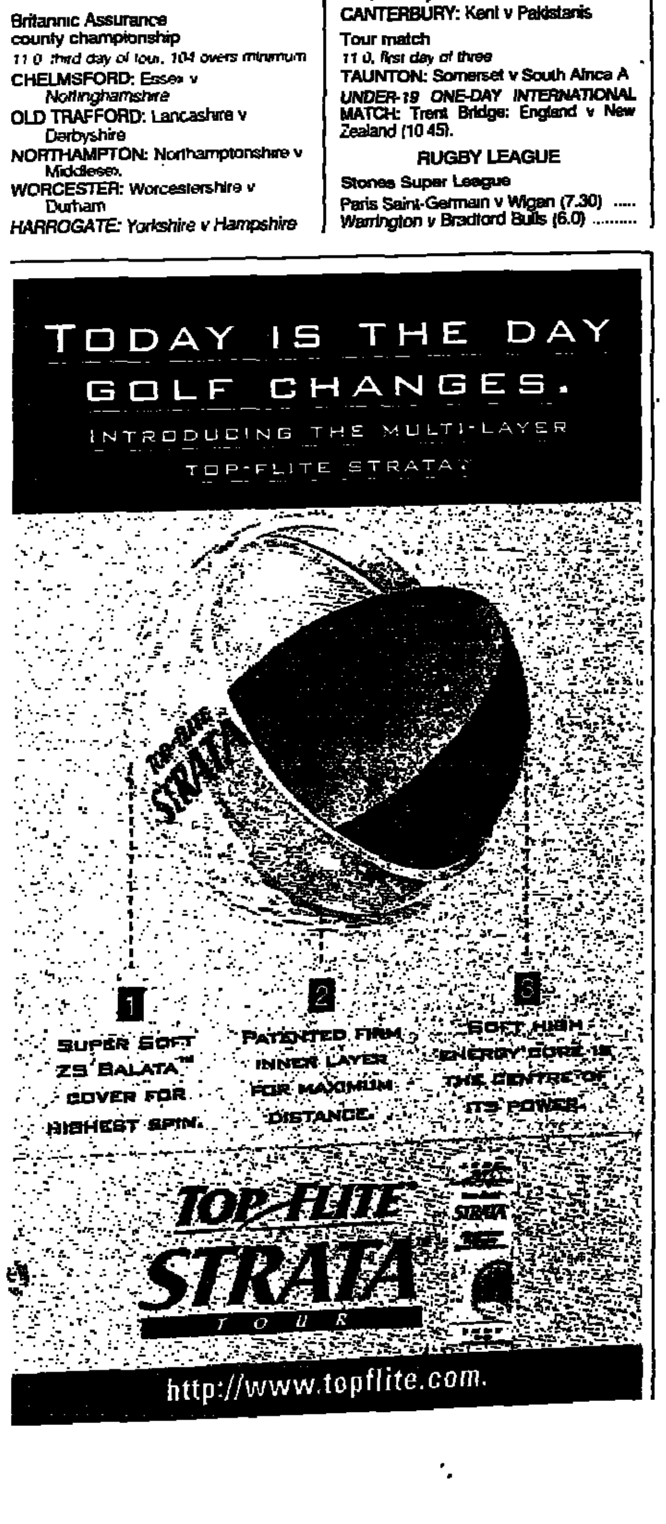
Stones Super League
Castleford Tigers v Sheffield Eagles (3.30) ....
Halifax Blue Sox v Workington (3.0) .....
London Broncos v *Leeds (3.0)* ....
First division
Batley Bulldogs v Featherstone (6.30) ..
Hull v Huddersfield Giants (6.0) ......
Wakefield v Widnes (6.0) ....
Whitehaven v Keighley Cougars (3.30)
Second division
Bramley v Hull Kingston Rovers (5.0) ..
Carlisle v Doncaster Dragons (3.0) . ..
Chorley Magpies v Prescot Panthers (6.0) ....
South Wales v Leigh Centurions (at Cardiff Arms Park, 6.0) ....

FOOTBALL

PRE-SEASON MATCH: Shamrock v Hearts (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

CYCLING: Yorkshire CF (15 miles, *Baldersby, 6.0am*).
GOLF: Open Championship (Royal Lytham and St Annes)
MOTORCYCLING: British Grand Prix (Donington Park)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Peterborough v Scottish Monarchs (5.30). Conference League: Buxton v Exeter (3.0). Peterborough v Linlithgow (7.0).



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Benson guides Ireland to European success

IRELAND won the inaugural European cricket championship yesterday when they overcame Holland by three wickets in a tense final in Brondby, Denmark (David Townsend writes). Justin Benson, the Ireland captain, appeared to be leading his side to a comfortable victory after his bowlers had restricted the Dutch to 223 for nine from 50 overs.

Decker Curry, who claimed three for 33 with his off spin, then filled the role of "pinch-hitter", striking nine boundaries in a rapid 55, and, with Benson hitting two sixes on his way to 79, the target had been reduced to 81 from 25 overs. An aggressive spell of medium-pace bowling by Tim de Leede had the Irish *stumbling, but Ryan Eagleson saw them home with 21 not out.*

Champions in the money

FOOTBALL: Clubs competing in the European Cup Champions' League received substantial pay rises yesterday as Uefa, the sport's European governing body, announced a series of increases in prize-money for the coming season.

The teams reaching the final will see the biggest increase, with each receiving SFr 4 million (about £2 million), about 14 per cent more than Juventus and Ajax received last season.

Fulton fit to play

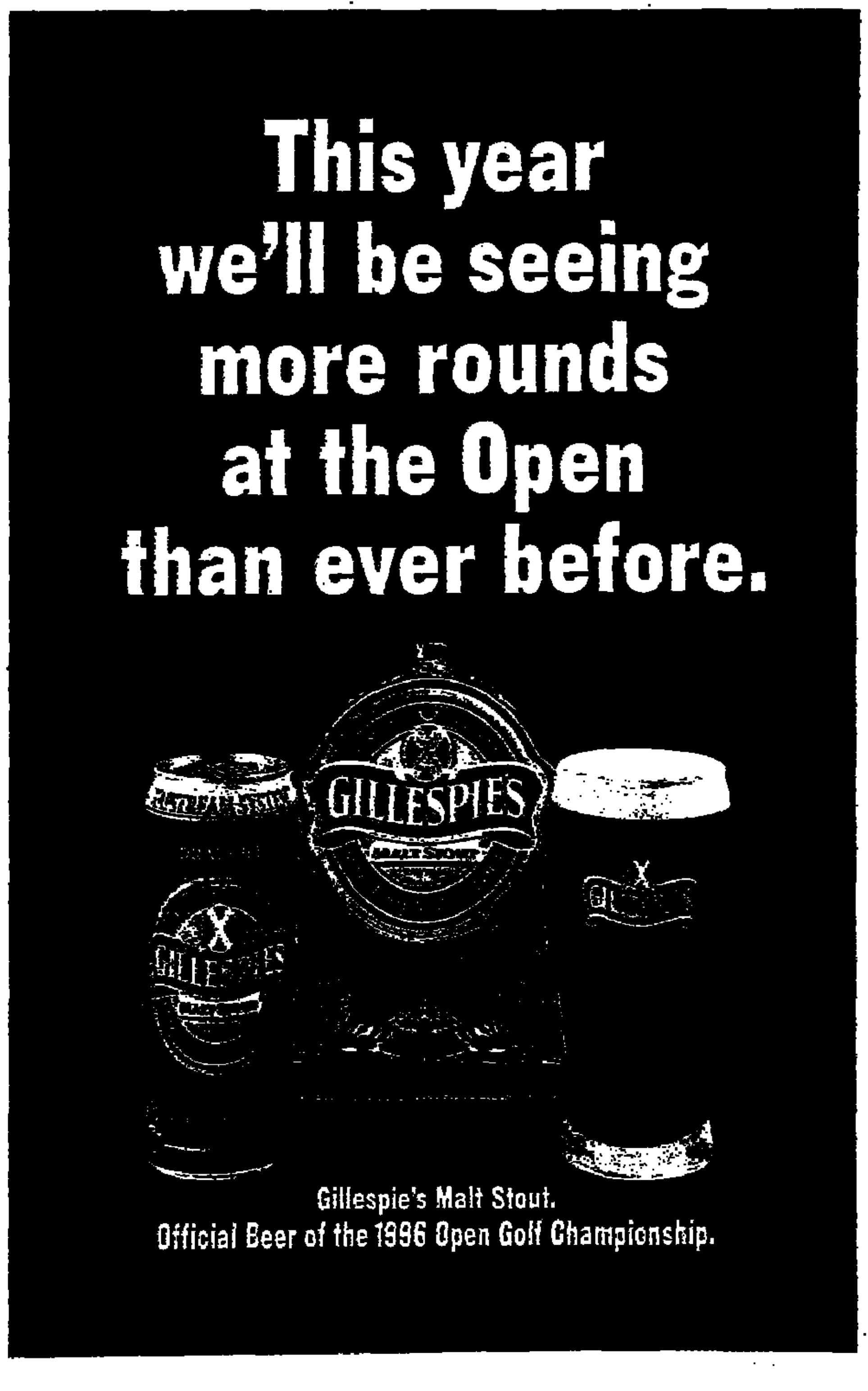
CRICKET: Kent, the county championship leaders, will field their strongest side available for the Tetley Bitter Challenge against the Pakistanis, starting at Canterbury today. David Fulton, the Kent opening batsman, has recovered from a virus. ☐ Devon Malcolm, the former England fast bowler, will turn out for Werneth, the Central Lancashire League team, in the derby with Oldham, today.

Cardiff keep Davies

RUGBY UNION: Cardiff have rejected Llanelli's offer to sign their former stand-off half, Jonathan Davies. *Llanelli had* hoped Cardiff would release the former Wales union and league captain to play at stand-off and become backs coach. Davies has failed to make the expected impact at Cardiff since his switch from Warrington rugby league club last season.

Ogre hit target

RIFLE SHOOTING: The Old Greshamians Rifle Establishment (Ogre) won the Astor County Championship Cup at Bisley yesterday with 625 points out of a possible 630, the highest score ever made for the event. Surrey, represented by the Old Epsomians RC, made the same total, but Ogre won by 91 V-bulls to 90.



This year we'll be seeing more rounds at the Open than ever before.
Gillespie's Malt Stout.
Official Beer of the 1996 Open Golf Championship.

RACING

Secret Combe can pay rich dividend for Makin's team

RICHARD EVANS

on Newbury's feature race today

WHEN Secret Combe did the splits and went lame just *before going through the sales* ring as a yearling at Goffs in Ireland last year, the omens were not good. Sure enough, her breeders were forced to buy her back for a lowly Ir3,000 guineas.

However, the bargain-basement price for the Mujadil *filly could prove to be a* blessing in disguise at Newbury today when she lines up for the £50,000-added Weatherbys Super Sprint, in which the weights are allocated according to the sale price of the runners.

Peter Makin, who is enjoying an excellent *season from* his yard at Ogbourne Maisey, in Wiltshire, bought Secret Combe unseen, having enjoyed success with her half-brother, Gone For A Burton, and the speed she showed at *home in the spring* more than justified his hunch.

On her seasonal debut at Bath three weeks ago, when she was well backed, Seb Saunders was caught napping *and pipped by a* Richard Hannon runner coming up his blind side. However, there was no mistake when she won by eight lengths in a decent time at Folkestone ten days ago over six furlongs.

"She showed enough speed at Folkestone and Bath to suggest she *should be all right* over five furlongs," Makin said yesterday. "She is by no means a good thing, which *everybody is telling me she is*, but I hope she runs a big race."

In previous years this race has been won by such speedy types as Lyric Fantasy, Paris House and Brief Glimpse, but today's renewal looks to be below average.

The event looks set up for a lightly-raced horse open to more improvement rather than logical form choices, such as the consistent Magical Times or Young Bigwig.

Richard Hannon has an excellent record in this race and is represented by Fanny's Choice, who beat Passiflora, a previous winner, when scoring readily at Windsor 19 days ago. She should go well but is not particularly well drawn. From her plum draw near the stand rail, **Secret Combe** can oblige.

On a day when *solid betting* opportunities appear to be thin on the ground, **Averti** is worth a second glance at Newbury (3.05).

The Willie Muir-trained sprinter has benefited from an operation to improve his breathing and won with plenty in hand on supposedly unsuitable ground at Haydock recently.

Although drawn low, the big field should enable Brent Thomson to track over to the far rail where the ground is fastest.

Roy Bowring is having a particularly good year and he has sound prospects of completing a double at Warwick. **Chadwell Hall** goes particularly *well at the Midlands* track, having won and finished runner-up during two visits there this season.

The speedy five-year-old, who ran better than his finishing position indicates in a more competitive race at York over six furlongs last week, can oblige in the capable hands of Colin Teague in the finale (9.05).

In the opening race on the evening card (*6.35*), *another* Bowring hope, **Aquado**, looks an interesting proposition now that he tackles seven *furlongs. Significantly*, the seven-year-old is reunited with Derek Denby, who has been successful on him twice before, and he can collect this weak event.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: HELLO
(2.00 Newbury)

Next best: Aquado
(6.35 Warwick)

Nap: BUBBLE WINGS
(3.00 Yarmouth tomorrow)

Next best: Blue Duster
(4.00 Yarmouth tomorrow)

GILL ALLEN

Green Perfume lowered the course record when fending off Everglades in the Watermill Conditions Stakes at Newbury yesterday

Hills to appeal against Doncaster ban

By Julian Muscat

RICHARD HILLS is to appeal against the three-day riding suspension that threatens to sideline him for Pentire's assault on the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes. Should his appeal be dismissed, Michael Roberts will deputise aboard the four-year-old at Ascot a week today.

Hills, deemed to have ridden carelessly at *Doncaster* on Wednesday, reviewed videos of the incident before initiating the appeal. He studied his *riding* of Polinesso with his father, Barry, who trains the horse, and Andrew Chalk, the solicitor who will front the appeal at the Jockey Club on Wednesday.

Should the disciplinary committee consider the appeal frivolous, Hills runs the risk of having his ban extended into Glorious Goodwood. The suspension at present runs from July 26-29 and Goodwood commences the following day.

The jockey said yesterday: "It looked like a 50-50 decision and I'm hoping to get the benefit of the doubt. I didn't think it was bad, so much so that I hardly noticed it at the time. If anything, I felt it was a *minor* offence and maybe two days would have been *more appropriate*." It was the jockey's third transgression of the season after two previous incidents of irresponsible riding.

A two-day ban, the minimum sanction, would have entitled Hills to claim the exemption available on group one race days. But Geoff Wragg, who trains Pentire, has insured against Hills losing his appeal. "Michael Roberts will ride the horse in his final piece of work at the weekend," Wragg said.

"Pentire *is in very* good shape," Wragg continued. "He is a game little horse and I don't think a change of rider would be a problem." Pentire has been installed favourite to head *off the challenge of Shaamit, whom* Hills rode to win the Derby at Epsom. Pat Eddery takes over aboard Shaamit in the mid-summer championship event over 12 furlongs.

Hills came in for a dream spare ride at Newbury yesterday when he partnered Cinema Paradiso for Paul Cole in the EBF Ecchinswell Stakes. Cole also saddled the better fancied Olivo but Cinema Paradiso, racing against the stand rail, obliged at odds of 14-1 from the odds-on debutant, Jawhari.

Cole wasted little time in adding to his tally when Green Perfume lowered the track record in the Watermill Conditions Stakes over an extended seven furlongs. Green Perfume has rebutted the maxim that horses never come back, although in this colt's case, his loss of form was because of a *viral complaint rather than any* physical injury.

Green Perfume, who chased home Pennekamp in the Dewhurst Stakes 21 months ago, fully *merits* his elevation to pattern company in the Hungerford Stakes here next month. "He was an ill horse when he ran in the 2,000 Guineas," Cole said. "His owner wasn't very well and it was his ambition to have a runner, so we pushed him and it finished him for the year." The four-year-old is certain*ly back on the scent now.*

NEWMARKET

THUNDERER

2.10 *Floating Line*	3.45 *Man Howa*
2.45 Hawksley Hill	4.15 Missile
3.15 Place De L'Opera	4.45 Saint Express
	5.20 Easycall

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.45 Blockade. 4.15 Missile.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.10 *FOOD BROKERS-GLOYSTARNE HANDICAP*
(£4,620: 1m 6f 175yd) (8 runners)

1	(7)	51043-0	TOP CEES 14 (F,G) (R Sangster) Mrs J Ramsden 6-9-12	K Fallon	98
2	(5)	22043/5	BRANDON COURT 14 (G,S) (R Michaelson) I Balding 5-9-10	M Hills	95
3	(6)	13-0506	CASUAL WATER 14 (C,D,F,G) (G Leatham) A Newcombe 5-9-0	S Drowne (3)	[illegible]
4	(1)	*03210-6*	*SUGAR MILL 15 (F) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-11*	*A Culhane*	*94*
5	(2)	20-0440	FLOATING LINE 7 (C,F,G,S) (G Lowe) E Alston 8-8-10	M Wigham	95
6	(3)	000-016	WELL ARRANGED 56 (D,G,S) (Mrs A-M Hamilton) R Akehurst 5-8-6	J Weaver	98
7	(4)	0/00-066	DOUBLE ECHO 16 (F,G,S) (Mrs J Lee) J Bethell 8-7-10	G Bardwell	96
8	(8)	04/535	BLAZON OF TROY 21 (F) (D Wilson) T Thomson Jones 7-7-10	F Lynch (3)	95

Long *handicap*: Blazon Of Troy 7-8.

BETTING: 7-2 Top Cees, 4-1 Well Arranged, 5-1 Brandon Court, Sugar Mill, 6-1 Casual Water, 8-1 others.

1995 COLLEGE DON 4-8-9 D R McCabe (11-2) M Bell 8 ran

2.45 INVESCO HANDICAP (£4,854: 1m) (11 runners)

1	(5)	0-01005	NORDINEX 11 (CD,F,G) (R Arculli) R Armstrong 4-9-13	M Hills	93
2	(6)	3-00060	TOUJOURS RIVIERA 11 (CD,F,G) (J Furlong) J Pearce 6-9-12	G Bardwell	92
3	(9)	02-0244	ADMIRALS FLAME 10 (D,F,S) (Hindesham Racing) C Wall 5-9-11	P Clarke (7)	92
4	(8)	40-2005	SHE'S MY LOVE 9 (F) (Sheik Ahmad Yousuf Al Sabah) J Banks 3-9-4	J Weaver	93
5	(7)	001332	DUELLO 23 (D,S) (H Promotions Ltd) M Blanshard 5-9-1	J Quinn	93
6	*(2)*	*14-0331*	*BLOCKADE 16 (CD,F,G,S) (A Warrender) M Bell 7-8-13*	*M Fenton*	*92*
7	(10)	0-11121	HAWKSLEY HILL 14 (D,F,G) (H Alexander) Mrs J Ramsden 3-8-12	K Fallon	[illegible]
8	(1)	60-2000	BELLAS GATE BOY 16 (J Pearce) J Pearce 4-8-9	Lisa Moncrieff (7)	94
9	(3)	00-1066	WILLISA 41 (F) (Sheikh Amin Dahlawi) J Bethell 3-8-8	G Carter	92
10	(4)	024540-	VANBOROUGH LAD 316 (D,F,G,S) (A Galbraith) M Bolton 7-8-5	F Lynch (3)	90
11	(11)	30-0002	RISE UP SINGING 21 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs R Brown) W Musson 8-7-13	D R McCabe	91

BETTING: *3-1 Hawksley Hill, 5-1 Duello, 6-1 Admirals Flame, 7-1 Blockade 8-1 Toujours Riviera, Nordinex, 10-1* Rise Up Singing, She's My Love 16-1 Willisa 20-1 Vanborough Lad 25-1 Bellas Gate Boy

1995: SHEER DANZIG 3-8-12 W R Swinburn (7-1) R Armstrong 13 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
H Cecil	65	274	23 7	D R McCabe	11	69	15 9
D Loder	20	96	20 8	J Stack	7	53	13.2
S bin Suroor	4	24	16 7	J Weaver	23	180	12.8
P Walwyn	13	82	15 9	M Hills	33	329	10 0
J Gosden	53	357	14 8	Only qualifiers			

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6/1	Go Britannia
13/2	Really A Dream
7/1	Hidden Oasis
7/1	How Long
7/1	My Lewicia
14/1	Brandon Magic
16/1	Iamus
16/1	Polar Eclipse
20/1	Swift Fandango

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GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 . B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell P — pulled up. U — unseated rider B — brought down. S — slipped up R — refused. D — disqualified) Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner D — distance winner CD — course and distance winner BF — beaten favourite in latest race) Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets Trainer Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.15 FOOD BROKERS APHRODITE STAKES
(Listed race: Fillies: £11,875: 1m 4f) (5 runners)

1	(2)	2/20-422	JURAL 24 (C,G,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-9-2	P Robinson	90
2	(5)	3154	ALZABELLA 30 (G) (M Wauchope) J Hills 3-8-4	K Fallon	92
3	(4)	15	BALALAIKA 37 (F) (Helena Springfield Ltd) L Cumani 3-8-4	J Weaver	81
4	(3)	211	PLACE DE L'OPERA 35 (D,F,G) (Cliveden Stud) H Cecil 3-8-4	A McGlone	93
5	(1)	11-3234	SHEMOZZLE 14 (C,BF,F) (Lord Hartington) J Gosden 3-8-4	M Hills	[illegible]

BETTING: 13-8 Place De L'Opera, 7-4 Shemozzle, 7-2 Jural, 12-1 Balalaika, 14-1 Alzabella.

1995: HAGWAH 3-8-4 M Roberts (15-2) B Hanbury 5 ran

3.45 PRIMULA MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £4,503: 6f) (8 runners)

C4

1	(6)		CHINA RED (N Browne) J Hills 9-0	M Hills	–
2	(7)	0	DOUBLY-H 49 (G H Laderman) M Bell 9-0	M Fenton	–
3	(8)	0	FEEL A LINE 9 (J Gutton) B Meehan 9-0	M Tebbutt	–
4	(1)		IBIN ST JAMES (Sheikh Amin Dahlawi) J Bethell 9-0	K Fallon	–
5	(4)	2	MAN HOWA 22 (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) L Cumani 9-0	J Weaver	[illegible]
6	(3)	5	SUPREMISM 21 (W Gredley) C Brittain 9-0	W J O'Connor	79
7	(5)		SERENITY (Dr Catherine Wills) J Fanshawe 8-9	N Day	–
8	(2)		UNDERCOVER AGENT (J Rosenheim) J Dunlop 8-9	G Carter	–

BETTING: 4-5 Man Howa, 9-2 Undercover Agent, 7-1 Supremism, 8-1 Serenity, 12-1 China Red, Doubly-H, 14-1 others

1995: AKALIM 9-0 W Ryan (8-1) D Morley 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOUBLY-H 57l last of 10 to Shock Value in maiden here (6f, good to firm). FEEL A LINE 21l last of 13 to Grapeshot in maiden over course and distance (good to firm). MAN HOWA 1½l 2nd of 6 to Yashmak in maiden over course and distance (good). SUPREMISM 8¾l 5th of 10 to Benny The Dip in maiden here (7f, good)
Selection: MAN HOWA

4.15 FOOD BROKERS ANIMAL HEALTH TRUST TROPHY RATED HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £17,150: 1m) (11 runners)

C4

1	(8)	13-452	POLAR ECLIPSE 20 (S) (J Good) M Johnston 9-7	J Weaver	87
2	(5)	421-264	HIDDEN OASIS 32 (V,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 9-6	K Fallon	98
3	(9)	42135	HOW LONG 9 (F) (Dr M Bolta) L Cumani 9-4	O Urbina	[illegible]
4	(2)	3-55005	BRANDON MAGIC 14 (G,S) (R Michaelson) I Balding 9-3	M Fenton	95
5	(6)	12-0	SWIFT FANDANGO 60 (C,F) (M Arbib) P Cole 9-2	J Quinn	85
6	(7)	0-21	MY LEWICIA 56 (D,S) (S Knight) P Harris 8-13	G Carter	88
7	(4)	22112	NORTH SONG 21 (D,BF,F,S) (J Gosden) J Gosden 8-13	A McGlone	98
8	(10)	021	GO BRITANNIA 15 (V,D,G) (W Said) D Loder 8-11	D R McCabe	90
9	(3)	021-10	MISSILE 15 (D,BF,F) (J Bogne) W Haggas 8-9	M Hills	95
10	(11)	246401	IAMUS 26 (D,F) (Hesmonds Stud) P Walwyn 8-5	W J O'Connor	94
11	(1)	4-25	REALLY A DREAM 80 (P Pritchard) M Stoute 8-7	F Lynch (3)	94

Long handicap. Really A Dream 8-4

BETTING: 7-2 Missile, 9-2 North Song, 6-1 Go Britannia, Hidden Oasis, 7-1 How Long, Really A Dream, 8-1 My Lewicia, 14-1 Brandon Magic, 16-1 Polar Eclipse, 20-1 Swift Fandango, Iamus

1995: RESTRUCTURE 9-1 Paul Eddery (9-2) Mrs J Cecil 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

POLAR ECLIPSE ¾l 2nd of 4 to Jarah (later disqualified and placed last) in conditions race at Doncaster (1m, good to firm)
HOW LONG about 2l 5th of 16 to Crumpton Hill in handicap here (7f, good to firm). MY LEWICIA beat Present Generation 5l in 11-runner maiden at Kempton (1m, good to soft). NORTH SONG beat Insatiable head in 31-runner Britannia Handicap at Royal Ascot (1m, good to firm) on penultimate start with HIDDEN OASIS (7lb better off) 2¾l 4th and BRANDON MAGIC (12lb better off) 4¾l 9th. GO BRITANNIA beat Melt The Clouds 5l in 11-runner maiden at Warwick (1m, good). MISSILE beat Winter Romance head in 13-runner handicap at York (1m, good to firm) on penultimate start. IAMUS beat Mubariz 2l in 13-runner maiden at Nottingham (1m, good to firm)
Selection: NORTH SONG

4.45 CHEMIST BROKERS HANDICAP
(£6,056: 5f) (14 runners)

C4

1	(11)	4030-00	SAINT EXPRESS 8 (D,F,G) (D Hall) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-0	A Culhane	89
2	(12)	0-60050	WELSH MIST 8 (B,D,F,G) (P Asquith) R Boss 5-9-12	M Hills	89
3	(10)	5124D0	FEMME SAVANTE 8 (F) (N Ahamad) R Hannon 4-9-9	W J O'Connor	–
4	(6)	0-04242	TEDBURROW 8 (D,F,G) (P Davies) Mrs A Naughton 4-9-7	D Griffiths (5)	97
5	(14)	360524	ZIGGY'S DANCER 7 (D,F,G) (J Barry) E Alston 5-9-5	K Fallon	[illegible]
6	(8)	1-30052	TADEO 8 (D,F,G) (J Good) M Johnston 3-9-5	J Weaver	97
7	(13)	200415	LAGO DI VARANO 8 (V,D,F,G,S) (The PBT Group) R Whitaker 4-9-4	F Lynch (3)	95
8	(9)	042042	BOWDEN ROSE 18 (B,D,F,G) (Mrs C Ward) M Blanshard 4-9-3	J Quinn	95
9	(5)	102415	GALINE 11 (CD,F,G) (S Fustok) W O Gorman 3-9-2	Emma O'Gorman	94
10	(1)	122541	BOLSHOI 14 (B,D,F) (Mrs D Brown) J Berry 4-9-2	G Carter	98
11	(3)	111126	SEA-DEER 8 (CD,F,G,S) (Bardwy Mutters Ltd) C Dwyer 7-9-1	A McGlone	96
12	(2)	4-05000	THE HAPPY FOX 19 (D,F,G) (G Whitaker) B McMahon 4-8-12	P McCabe (3)	88
13	(4)	204025	TART AND A HALF 15 (B,D,BF,F) (P Boggis) B Meehan 4-8-11	M Tebbutt	97
14	(7)	316022	SPENDER 11 (D,BF,F,G) (The Entrepreneurs) P Harris 7-8-9	J Stack	96

BETTING: 11-2 Sea-Deer, 6-1 Galine, Tedburrow, 8-1 Bolshoi, Tadeo, Ziggy's Dancer, 10-1 Bowden Rose, Lago Di Varano, Spender, 12-1 Tart And A Half, 33-1 Saint Express, Welsh Mist, 25-1 The Happy Fox, 33-1 Femme Savante

1995: SWEET MAGIC 4-8-11 A McGlone (9-4) L Holt 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

TEDBURROW head 2nd of 22 to Coastal Bluff in handicap at York (5f, good) with LAGO DI VARANO (3lb better off) about 1¾l 5th, SEA-DEER (3lb better off) head 6th, FEMME SAVANTE (8lb better off) 7l 18th and SAINT EXPRESS (3lb better off) head 19th. ZIGGY'S DANCER about 1¾l 4th of 6 to Lucky Parkes in conditions race at Chester (5f, good to firm). TADEO neck 2nd of 5 to U-No-Harry in handicap at Chester (5f, good to firm). LAGO DI VARANO beat *Premium Gift* head in 10-runner handicap at Doncaster (5f, good to firm) with BOLSHOI (8lb worse off) about ¾l 4th. BOWDEN ROSE ¾l 2nd of 7 to Anselman in handicap at Chepstow (5f, good to firm). BOLSHOI beat Just Dissident 4l in handicap at Beverley (5f, good to firm). SPENDER short-head 2nd of 11 to Shadow Jury in handicap over course and distance (good).
Selection: TADEO

5.20 CHEMIST BROKERS CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £5,277: 5f) (4 runners)

1	(2)	011151	FOR OLD TIMES SAKE 15 (D,F,G) (Mrs B Bury) J Berry 9-8	G Carter	84
2	(3)	1101	JENNELLE 10 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Cornwell) C Dwyer 8-11	Jo Hannam (7)	98
3	(1)	1	EASYCALL 36 (D,G) (Easycall Partnership) B Meehan 8-10	M Tebbutt	[illegible]
4	(4)	36	MILLROY 9 (Exors of R Belderson) P Kelleway 8-10	M Wigham	74

BETTING: *7-4 For Old Times Sake, 5-2 Jennelle, 3-1 Easycall, 4-1 Millroy*

1995: MAGGI FOR MARGARET 8-9 R Hughes (3-4) M Channon 4 ran

NEWBURY

THUNDERER

1.30 Smokey Pete	3.05 Branston Abby
2.00 Wolf Mountain	3.35 **SALMON LADDER** (nap)
2.30 Secret Combe	4.05 Mystic Hill
	4.35 Game Ploy

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
2.30 **SECRET COMBE.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
2.00 **IMPERIAL PRESIDENT** (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

1.30 DONCASTER BLOODSTOCK SALES ROSE BOWL STAKES (Listed race: 2-Y-O: £9,845: 6f 8yd) (6 runners)

BBC1

101	(3)	10	SMOKEY PETE 66 (BF,F) (J Davis) R Hannon 9-0	M Roberts	91
102	(4)	1	OMAHA CITY 44 (F) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 8-11	D Holland	81
103	(6)	01241	PELHAM 25 (D,F,G) (D Luce-Smith) R Hannon 8-11	T Quinn	93
104	(1)	311	VICTORY DANCER 12 (D,F,G) (A Cunliffe) B Meehan 8-11	B Doyle	98
105	(2)	2	CRYSTAL CROSSING 23 (BF) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-6	J Reid	91
106	(5)	21	HAKKANIYAH 42 (D,F) (H Al Maktoum) D Morley 8-6	W Carson	[illegible]

BETTING: 9-4 Hakkaniyah, 3-1 Crystal Crossing, 7-2 Smokey Pete, 4-1 Victory Dancer, 6-1 Pelham, 10-1 Omaha City

1995: POLARIS FLIGHT 8-11 J Reid (6-4) P Chapple-Hyam 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

SMOKEY PETE beat Bilko neck in 6-runner conditions race at Ascot (5f, good to firm) on penultimate start.
OMAHA CITY beat Bold African neck in 5-runner maiden at Chester (5f, good to firm). PELHAM beat Last Chance ¾l in 4-runner conditions race at Yarmouth (6f, firm). VICTORY DANCER beat Green Jewel neck in 7-runner conditions race at Windsor (6f, good) *CRYSTAL CROSSING neck 2nd of 8 to Fig Tree* Drive in maiden over course and distance (good to firm). HAKKANIYAH beat Hen Harrier 3l in 5-runner maiden at Newmarket (6f, good to firm)
Selection: CRYSTAL CROSSING (nap)

2.00 MTOTO DONNINGTON CASTLE CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £8,587: 7f) (5 runners)

BBC1

201	(5)	104	FLETCHER 19 (BF,F) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 8-13	T Quinn	93
202	(1)	15	HELLO 32 (G) (P Wroughton) J Dunlop 8-13	J Reid	[illegible]
203	(2)	31	IMPERIAL PRESIDENT 14 (D,F) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 8-13	W Ryan	86
204	(3)	2	WOLF MOUNTAIN 37 (BF) (Lord Carnarvon) R Hannon 8-10	M Roberts	98
205	(4)		KINSHIP (Lord Weinstock) P Chapple-Hyam 8-7	W Carson	–

BETTING: 6-4 Wolf Mountain, 9-4 Hello, 5-1 Imperial President, 6-1 Kinship, 7-1 Fletcher.

1995: ZELZELAH 8-4 J Weaver (6-1) P Kelleway 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

FLETCHER about 3½l 4th of 7 to Magrasane in conditions race at Pontefract (5f, good to firm) *HELLO about* 4½l 4th of 15 to Vergias in group III Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot (6f, good to firm) with FLETCHER 3½l 7th. IMPERIAL PRESIDENT beat Grate Times 4l in 4-runner conditions race at Beverley (7f 100yd, good to firm). WOLF MOUNTAIN *head 2nd of 6 to Fun Galore in* conditions race here (6f, good to firm). KINSHIP *(foaled Feb 17)* Half-brother by In The Wings to very useful juvenile Emmson and useful middle-distance performer League Leader; dam 6f-1m winner in North America
Selection: WOLF MOUNTAIN

2.30 WEATHERBYS SUPER SPRINT
(2-Y-O: £57,040: 5f 34yd) (15 runners)

BBC1

301	(11)	4421	FREDRIK THE FIERCE 24 (D,F) (C Deuters) J Berry 8-12	J Reid	76
302	(1)	6244	NERVOUS REX 10 (B) (M Payton) W Muir 8-10	D Holland	78
303	(9)	5425	HANGOVER SQUARE 35 (BF) (B Lalemont) R Hannon 8-8	T Quinn	91
304	*(8)*		*BEWITCHING LADY (N Cronin) D Arbuthnot 8-7*	*R Cochrane*	–
305	(13)	4	EXPECTATION 14 (I S Racing) P Webber 8-7	B Thomson	74
306	(6)	22122	MAGICAL TIMES 15 (D,F) (Ms L Bell) R Boss 8-6	M Roberts	97
307	(7)	4122	YOUNG BIGWIG 31 (D,G) (W Mitner) J Berry 8-6	J Carroll	95
308	(4)	31	FANNY'S CHOICE 19 (S) (N Ahamad) R Hannon 8-5	Dane O'Neill	98
309	(15)	0213	CLASS DISTINCTION 23 (D,F) (The EMA Partnership) R Hannon 8-4	R Perham	90
310	*(10)*	*51*	*HEAD OVER HEELS 9 (D,F) (Mr R Hood) J Gosden 8-2*	*W Ryan*	*85*
311	(3)	01	MISS STAMPER 20 (D,F) (J R Leisure Ltd) R Hannon 8-1	D Harrison	80
312	(2)		SNAP CRACKLE POP (J Short/K Wills/D Horn) R J Houghton 8-1	Paul Eddery	–
313	(5)	661	CLARA BLISS 47 (F) (G Catchpole) B Meehan 8-0	J F Egan	87
314	(12)	213	SEASIDE 58 (D,S) (The 1997 Partnership) John Berry 7-13	A Mackay	94
315	(14)	21	SECRET COMBE 10 (G) (Bakewell Bloodstock Ltd) P Makin 7-13	S Sanders	[illegible]

BETTING: *4-1 Magical Times, 5-1 Secret Combe, 6-1 Young Bigwig, 7-1 Fanny's Choice, 8-1 Head Over Heels* 10-1 Seaside, Miss Stamper, 12-1 others

1995: BLUE IRIS 8-1 W Carson (13-2) M Jarvis 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

FREDRIK THE FIERCE beat *Maid By the Fire* 1¼l in 7-runner maiden at Chester (5f, good to firm). HANGOVER SQUARE 3½l 2nd of 6 to Granny's Pet in conditions race at Epsom (5f, good) on penultimate start. MAGICAL TIMES neck 2nd of 5 to For Old Times Sake in conditions race at Beverley (5f, good to firm). YOUNG BIGWIG 1l 2nd of 6 *to Rich In Love in conditions race at Ripon (6f,* good to firm). FANNY'S CHOICE beat Passiflora 1¾l *in 5-runner conditions race at Windsor (6f,* soft). CLASS DISTINCTION beat Nifty Norman 1¾l in 16-runner auction maiden at Pontefract (5f, good to firm) on penultimate start. HEAD OVER HEALS beat Bold Tina 1¼l in 7-runner maiden at Chepstow (5f, good to firm). SECRET COMBE beat River Of Fortune 8l in 10-runner auction maiden at Folke*stone (6f, good)*
Selection: SECRET COMBE

3.05 HACKWOOD STAKES (Listed race: £12,724: 6f 8yd) (16 runners)

401	(16)	13-0312	INZAR 21 (C,D,F,G,S) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 4-9-10	T Quinn	95
402	(10)	210022	VENTURE CAPITALIST 14 (D,F,G) (W Swers) D Nicholls 7-9-10	Alex Greaves	97
403	(7)	0-50202	MONTENDRE 15 (CD,F,G) (D Mort) M McCormack 9-9-7	J Reid	85
404	(3)	2040-41	AVERTI 15 (D,F,G) (D Deer) W Muir 5-9-3	B Thomson	93
405	(9)	0-24203	EASY DOLLAR 38 (B,D,F,G) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 4-9-3	D Holland	87
406	(11)	43-3550	ESPARTERO 29 (D,F,G) (M Lanfranchi) M Prescott 4-9-3	S Sanders	89
407	(8)	0-01100	JAYANNPEE 29 (D,F,G) (J Paniccia) I Balding 5-9-3	W Ryan	94
408	(6)	40-1200	MADLY SHARP 21 (D,F,G) (Lord Swaythling) J Watts 5-9-3	J Carroll	91
409	(13)	142030-	NO EXTRAS 275 (D,F,G,S) (K Higson) G L Moore 6-9-3	Candy Morris	88
410	(14)	30-2310	TOP BANANA 29 (C,D,F,G) (Major M Wyatt) H Candy 5-9-3	C Rutter	84
411	(1)	120814	BRANSTON ABBY 8 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (J Abell) M Johnston 7-9-2	M Roberts	97
412	(5)	0-03612	DARING DESTINY 8 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Wright) K Burke 5-9-2	J Tate	84
413	(4)	14-6110	RAMBLING BEAR 30 (CD,F,G) (Mrs M Hill) M Blanshard 3-9-2	R Cochrane	[illegible]
414	(15)	6140-01	SEA DANE 21 (D,F) (Carat Gold Connections) P Harris 3-9-2	B Doyle	89
415	(2)	15-4100	KING OF THE EAST 14 (D,S) (Dr K Shimizu) M Stoute 3-8-12	W Carson	88
416	(12)	23-0105	PLEASE SUZANNE 8 (D,F) (Mohamed Suhail) R Hannon 3-8-7	Dane O'Neill	84

BETTING: 9-2 Branston Abby, 5-1 Inzar, 6-1 Averti, 7-1 Rambling Bear, 8-1 Venture Capitalist, 12-1 Sea Dane, 14-1 others.

1995: HARD TO FIGURE 9-9-7 S Drowne (25-1) R Hodges 10 ran

3.35 STEVENTON STAKES (Listed race: £12,646. 1m 2f 6yd) (7 runners)

501	(2)	4221-11	BAL HARBOUR 24 (D,F) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 5-9-6	W Ryan	92
502	(1)	1130-01	MURAJJA 52 (CD,F,G,S) (H Al Maktoum) P Walwyn 4-9-3	NON-RUNNER	–
503	(7)	14-3040	NAKED WELCOME 31 (D,F,G) (Most Welcome P'tship) M F-Godley 4-9 3	D Holland	92
504	(3)	605-110	SALMON LADDER 15 (D,F,G,S) (M Arbib) P Cole 4-9-3	T Quinn	[illegible]
505	(5)	2315-45	KINGS WITNESS 14 (G) (Highclere Racing Ltd) W Haggas 3-8-7	R Cochrane	94
506	(4)	*212*	*MAGELLAN 139 (G) (Mohamed Obaida) C Brittain 3-8-7*	*B Doyle*	–
507	(6)	210	WALL STREET 32 (F) (Godolphin) Saeed bin Suroor 3-8-7	J Reid	86

BETTING: 7-4 Bal Harbour, 3-1 Salmon Ladder, 5-1 Naked Welcome, 13-2 Kings Witness, 8-1 Wall Street 10-1 Magellan.

1995: IHTIRAM 3-8-6 W Carson (7-4 fav) J Dunlop 5 ran

4.05 HANNINGTON HANDICAP (£5,703: 1m 5f 61yd) (14 runners)

601	(9)	100-053	MYSTIC HILL 29 (F,S) (Mrs S Whitehead) G Harwood 5-10-0	A Clark	95
602	(5)	006030	AT LIBERTY 14 (G) (B Adams) R Hannon 4-9-13	Dane O'Neill (3)	95
603	(2)	33630-0	SHADOW LEADER 31 (S) (J Blackshaw) C Egerton 5-9-7	R Cochrane	90
604	(8)	42222-2	STEP ALOFT 11 (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-5	D Harrison	88
605	(4)	224110	LALINDI 10 (B,F,G,S) (White Horse Racing Ltd) D Elsworth 5-9-3	A Procter	92
606	(13)	016-212	MAKE A STAND 24 (BF,G,S) (P Deal) M Pipe 5-9-2	M Roberts	90
607	(10)	2-4322	GENEROSA 24 (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) H Candy 3-9-1	T Quinn	95
608	(6)	106/0-02	JERMYN STREET 56 (G) (J Bray) Mrs J Cecil 5-9-0	J Reid	92
609	(1)	31	FITZWILLIAM 19 (F) (P Mellon) I Balding 3-8-13	W Ryan	91
610	(11)	050-310	HAYAAIN 12 (BF,F) (H Al Maktoum) W Hern 3-8-11	W Carson	98
611	(14)	21/30-51	REIMEI 22 (F,G) (I Goldsmith) R Akehurst 7-8-11	S Sanders	[illegible]
612	(3)	23-3210	ARCTIC FANCY 30 (G) (The Cool Customers) P Harris 3-8-9	D Holland	98
613	(7)	26-3000	HORESTI 24 (The Dayspring Company Ltd) C Brittain 4-8-6	B Doyle	92
614	(12)	052100	ACHILLES HEEL 21 (G) (Camelot Racing) C Allen 5-7-10	Martin Dwyer (5)	93

Long handicap: Achilles Heel 7-8

BETTING. 7-2 Reimei, 5-1 Fitzwilliam, 7-1 Step Aloft, 8-1 Make A Stand, 10-1 Mystic Hill, Jermyn Street, Generosa, 12-1 others

1995: CELERIC 3-8-6 L Dettori (100-30) D Morley 8 ran

4.35 LEVY BOARD SEVENTH HANDICAP (£5,703: 1m 1f) (11 runners)

1	(2)	40/1-00	DAUNT 20 (G) (Lord Hartington) J Gosden 4-10-0	J Carroll	85
2	(9)	00-0625	DANEGOLD 10 (V,F,G,S) (The Dream Team) M Channon 4-9-6	J F Egan	92
3	(7)	6-00030	EMBANKMENT 35 (F,S) (Lady Tennant) R Hannon 6-9-5	Dane O'Neill (3)	94
4	(3)	*0-04111*	*GAME PLOY 7 (F,G) (P Hymston) D Haydn Jones 4-9-2*	Paul Eddery	[illegible]
5	(11)	*1144-00*	*SOME HORSE 15 (G,S) (The Anfield Homerest) M Meagher 5-9-2*	D Holland	93
6	(10)	*0-60132*	*SHARP CONSUL 20 (BF,S) (Mrs D Blackburn) H Candy 4-9-1*	C Rutter	94
7	(6)	00-0030	VOLA VIA 10 (F) (G Strawn) I Balding 3-9-0	Martin Dwyer (5)	95
8	(9)	421006	ZERMATT 10 (F,S) (Charles Gaenti) M Usher 6-8-12	S Sanders	98
9	(5)	4-10111	ROUFONTAINE 20 (F,G,S) (D Deer) W Muir 5-8-11	B Thomson	95
10	(4)	500410	COUNTRY LOVER 42 (V,F,G,S) Lord Huntingdon 5-8-10	Aimee Cook (5)	98
11	*(1)*	*105-342*	*THAMES SIDE 10 (F) (Mrs H Veall) M Madgwick 5-8-1*	*D Harrison*	*94*

BETTING: 3-1 Game Ploy, 7-2 Sharp Consul, 9-2 Roufontaine, 7-1 Embankment, 10-1 Danegold, Country Lover, 12-1 others

1995: SHOW FAITH 5-9-8 L Dettori (5-1) R Hannon 8 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
P Chapple-Hyam	37	146	25 3	J Reid	50	273	18 3
J Gosden	31	127	24 4	W Carson	34	221	15 4
H Cecil	16	93	17 2	W Ryan	11	85	12 9
M Johnston	4	26	15 4	*P Cochrane*	*20*	*160*	12 5
W Hern	6	43	14 0	S Sanders	4	33	12 1

Racing next week

MONDAY: **Beverley** (Sky, first race 6.15), **Musselburgh** (2.15), **Southwell** (AW 2.30), **Windsor** (Sky, 6.25)
TUESDAY: **Yarmouth** (2.15), Worcester (2.00)
WEDNESDAY: **Bath** (2.15), **Catterick Bridge** (2.30), **Leicester** (Sky, 6.30), **Sandown Park** (Sky, 6.15)
THURSDAY: **Brighton** (2.00), **Catterick Bridge** (Sky, 6.40), **Chepstow** (Sky, 6.30), **Sandown Park** (2.15).
FRIDAY: **Ascot** (BBC, 2.15), **Newmarket** (Sky, 6.15), **Nottingham** (Sky, 6.30) **Thirsk** (2.05), **Wolverhampton** (AW, 2.25)
SATURDAY: **Ascot** (BBC, 2.00), **Lingfield Park** (6.10), **Newcastle** (2.15) **Southwell** (AW, 6.25), Stratford (2.25)

Flat meetings in bold

Astor Place has French objective

ASTOR PLACE, trained by Peter Chapple-Hyam and ridden by John Reid, faces five rivals in tomorrow's group two Prix de Maurice de Nieuil over an extended 1½ miles at Maisons-Laffitte. Astor Place finished eighth in the Prix du Jockey-Club at Chantilly on June 2 and has since won a conditions race *at Ascot. His fellow three-year-olds, Darazari* and Le Destin, may give him most to do.

The Aga Khan's Darazari is highly regarded, although barely out of maiden class, while Le Destin finished five places ahead of Astor Place at Chantilly.

Michael Bell has found a good chance for Dankeston, the mount of Michael Roberts, to regain winning ways. He faces 13 opponents in the group three Grosser Preis der Lampart-Emaillierwerke Budapest-Frankfurt Pokal over ten furlongs at Frankfurt tomorrow.

Dankeston finished second up in the Italian *2,000 Guineas and on his last run was fourth to* First Island at Royal Ascot. Four of the field ran in last year's event, including the runner-up, Silent Lake. But the biggest danger to Dankeston could be the three-year-old Dupprima, who looks well in at the weights.

RAPID RACELINE
0930 168+

	COMMENTARY	RESULTS
NEWBURY	101	201
NEWMARKET	102	202
RIPON	103	203
NOTT'HAM	104	204
AYR	105	205
WARWICK	106	206

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

هكذا من الاصل

Hello will appreciate extended trip

NEWBURY

BBC1

1.30: There were some long faces after *Crystal Crossing* failed to justify heavy support on her debut here three weeks *ago. The Robert* Sangster-owned filly has always worked well on the Manton gallops and no doubt she will be a warm order again here. In the circumstances, the progressive **Victory Dancer** is offered as a value alternative.

2.00: Wolf Mountain looks sure to win races, having *shown plenty of promise* when finishing a head behind the gambled-on Fun Galore here *last month.* However, I am keen on the chances of **Hello**, *now that the* John Dunlop-trained runner tackles seven furlongs for the first time. After making a winning debut at Doncaster, the stoutly-bred colt did particularly well to finish fifth in the Coventry Stakes.

2.30: see facing page.

RICHARD EVANS

NEWMARKET

CHANNEL 4

3.45: Of those with experience, Doubly-H, Feel Alive and Supremism showed little on their respective debuts. Better possibilities surround the newcomers. Undercover Agent is from a stable packed with juvenile talent, while Serenity is bred to be sharp. But the one to beat here is **Man Howa**, who, after a tardy start, chased home the highly-regarded Yashmak at Newmarket last month.

4.15: North Song had Hidden Oasis and Brandon Magic behind over this trip at Royal Ascot. John Gosden's representative has since met with defeat over this course and *Hidden Oasis can turn the* tables with a 7lb pull.

However, **Missile** is preferred. On *his most recent* start, Missile was beaten too early at Sandown for the trip to be blamed. He had previously displayed a sharp turn of foot to land a similar event at York: this straight mile and fast ground be ideal. Really A Dream is unproven beyond seven furlongs, but Go Britannia is preferred to How Long, despite succumbing to Luca Cumani's runner at Sandown.

4.45: It usually pays to follow recent form in these handicap sprints and Tedburrow had Lago Di Varano, Sea-Deer, Femme Savante and Saint Express behind when touched *off at York last week. He* should again go well over this testing five furlongs. Tadeo and Bowden Rose are others approaching peak form but **Bolshoi** deserves the vote to follow up an impressive Beverley win. Jack Berry's runner appears on the upgrade and is best at this trip. Galine was unenterprisingly ridden over an extra furlong here two weeks ago and cannot be ruled out.

JULIAN MUSCAT

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newbury

Going: good to firm

2.30 (6f 8yd) 1. **Cinema Paradiso** (M Hills 14-1). 2. Jawhari (4-5 fav) 3. Olivo (7-1) 12 ran NR Al Azhar 2½l, ¾l P Cole Tote £19.60; £3.30, £1.10, £1.70 DF £15.70 Trio £19.80 CSF £25.68

3.00 (7f 64yd) 1. **Green Perfume** (T Quinn 15-8 fav). 2. Everglades (9-1) 3. Hard To Figure (5-1) 7 ran Nk, 5l P Cole Tote £2.80; £1.70, £3.60 DF £8.20 CSF £16.92

3.30 (5f 34yd) 1. **Song Of Skye** (D Holland, 33 [illegible] 2. Mayflower (7-1). 3. Blues Queen (9 [illegible] Chloe Nicole 5-6 fav 5 ran 1½l, ½l T Naughton Tote £18.80; £3.60, £1.60 DF £38.00 CSF £184.60

4.00 (1m 2f 6yd) 1. **Frog** (W Woods, 11-4 Private Handicapper's top rating) 2. Lavender Della (33-1) 3. Call Me (6-1) Polish Widow 5-2 fav 9 ran ½l, 3¼l M Prescott. Tote £4.10; £1.60, £4.80, £2.10 DF £63.30 Trio £144.30 CSF £64.64 Tricast £460.70

4.30 (6f 8yd) 1. **Bayin** (R Street, 11-4 fav). 2. Mr Bergerac (9-1). 3. Mister Jolson (15-2) 10 ran ¾l, nk. M Usher Tote: £4.20; £1.60, £2.90, £2.20 DF £18.90 Trio £17.80 CSF £27.27 Tricast £159.75.

5.00 (2m) 1. **Moonlight Quest** (W Ryan 7-4 fav) 2. Great Easeby (7-2). 3. Coleridge (14-1) 6 ran Hd, sh hd B Hanbury Tote £2.80; £1.40, £2.00. DF £3.80 CSF £7.98

5.30 (7f) 1. **Young Duke** (P McCabe, 7-2). 2. Sue's Return (12-1). 3. Easy Jet (2-1 fav) 8 ran 1¾l, 2½l Mrs S Williams Tote £3.50; £1.80, £1.50, £1.20. DF £27.50 CSF £37.67 Tricast £95.19

Jackpot: £11,878.50 (0.10 winning tickets; pool of £15,057.32 carried forward to *Newbury today*).

Placepot: £80.60. Quadpot: £32.60.

Musselburgh

Going: good to firm, firm in places

2.10 (5f) 1. **Bold African** (A Culhane, 2-5 fav). 2. Hever Golf Stormer (9-4); 3. Whittle Times (16-1) 3 ran NR Come Too Mamma's, Forzy, Thowghtone 5l, 11l P Evans

2.40 (1m 3f 32yd) 1. **Mithraic** (R Havlin, 5-4 fav). 2. Take Two (20-1). 3. Ambidextrous (5-2) 8 ran 11l, 3l W Cunningham. Tote £2.70; £1.40, £6.70, £1.10 DF £72.40. CSF £23.69

3.10 (1m 7f 16yd) 1. **Sarasota Storm** (M Fenton, 5-1). 2. Sharp Sensation (7-1); 3. Master Hyde (7-2) Pedaltothemetal 5-2 fav 10 ran 2½l, 8l M Bell Tote £6.50; £1.50, £2.70, £2.10 DF £10.30 Trio £22.60 CSF £36.63 Tricast £126.13

3.40 (5f) 1. **King Of Show** (K Fallon, 9-2); 2. Leading Princess (8-1). 3. Bowcliffe Grange (5-4 fav) 8 ran. Sh hd, 1¾l R Allan Tote £5.40; £1.50, £1.70, £1.10 DF £20.30 CSF £36.89 Tricast £64.91

4 [illegible] (7f 15yd) 1. **Sweeping Statement** (J Quinn, 12-1). 2. Super Scravels (7-4 fav) 3. Foolish Flutter (10-1) 6 ran 2½l, 3l J Berry Tote £8.30; £3.70, £1.10 DF £9.10 CSF £33.24 No bid

4.40 (1m 16yd) 1. **Broctune Gold** (A Culhane 10-1); 2. Seconds Away (14-1); 3. Riccarton (5-1) Rainbows Rhapsody 7-2 fav 13 ran 4l, nk. Mrs M Reveley Tote £10.70; £3.10, £2.70, £3.00 DF £72.80. Trio £154.30 CSF £129.70 Tricast £745.53

Placepot: £72.80. Quadpot: £33.70.

Southwell

Going: good to firm

2.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1. **Sessiver** (A P McCoy 13-8 fav); 2. Saxon Magic (5-1). 3. Saint Benet (4-1) 6 ran. NR Raincheck. ¾l, 16l P Kelleway. Tote £2.40; £1.10, £2.40 DF £4.20 CSF £9.13

2.50 (3m ch) 1. **Nobilely** (R Farrant, 11-8 jt-fav). 2. Full O'Praise (11-8 jt-fav); 3. Maggots Green (7-1) 4 ran 3½l, 2½l N Walker Tote £2.10 DF £2.00 CSF £3.37

3.20 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1. **Gimme** (Michael Brennan 6-1); 2. Strong John (10-1) 3. Lawful Love (4-1) Chieftain's Crown 2-1 fav. 6 ran NR Wake Up Luv 1½l, 11l J O'Shea Tote £9.50; £4.90, £5.10 DF £52.10 CSF £53.00

3.50 (2m hdle) 1. **Pegasus Bay** (R Garritty, 4-1) 2. War Whoop (9-4 fav) 3. The Little Ferret (7-1) 7 ran 1¼l, 5l W Haigh Tote £4.80; £2.60, £1.50 DF £6.80 CSF £13.56

4.20 (2m hdle) 1. **Trade Wind** (Michael Brennan 3-1) 2. Night Time (7-2) 3. Lancer (9-4 fav) 10 ran 2l, 5l J J O'Shea. Tote £3.80; £1.80, £3.10, £1.10 DF £7.40 Trio £7.10 CSF £14.77

4.50 (2m hdle) 1. **Island Vision** (Michael Brennan 9-4 fav) 2. Verdo Luna (5-1). 3. Stay With Me (9-2) 8 ran 2l, 1½l J O'Shea *Tote £3.10; £1.70, £2.30, £1.10 DF £4.10* CSF £15.31 Tricast £47.25

Placepot: £280.40. Quadpot: £94.30.

Thursday's late details

Redcar

Going: firm

6.45 (5f) 1. **Sunset Harbour** (J Fortune, 9-2); 2. L A Touch (7-2 jt-fav); 3. Swifty Nifty (50-1) Good To Talk 7-2 jt-fav 12 ran 1½l, sh hd S Kettlewell Tote £6.80; £2.00, £1.50, £9.20. DF £13.70 Trio £286.20 CSF £21.35 Tricast £683.26

7.15 (1m) 1. **Hawwam** (S Drowne, 10-1). 2. *Miss Zanzibar (14-1); 3. Thatched (9-2 jt-fav).* 4. Acquittal (20-1) Gilling Dancer 9-2 jt-fav 19 ran ½l, ½l E Alston Tote £14.30; £3.00, £3.40, £1.30, £4.70 DF £83.70 Trio *£178.70 CSF £142.59 Tricast £680.08*

7.45 (7f) 1. **Lady Mail** (R Cochrane, 33-1); 2. Stones To Tell (11-10 fav). 3. Dawam Allail (2-1) 9 ran ½l, nk. J Eustace Tote £18.00; £3.30, £1.10, £1.20 DF £18.20 *Trio £52.60* CSF £70.37

8.15 (1m 2f) 1. **Bulsara** (D McKeown, 7-2); 2. Alabang (7-4 fav). 3. Field Of Vision (10-1) 6 *ran Hd, hd C Fairhurst Tote £4.90; £1.60,* £1.90 DF £4.60 CSF £10.33

8.45 (2m 4yd) 1. **Izza** (N Kennedy, 8-1); 2. Marsavas (3-1 jt-fav); 3. Drab (3-1 jt-fav) 9 *ran Hd, nk W Storey Tote £8.90; £2.10,* £1.60, £1.50 DF £11.80 Trio £23.80 CSF £32.72 Tricast £84.42

9.15 (1m) 1. **Chinensis** (O Urbina, 2-7 fav); 2. *Badger Bay (16-1); 3. Dispol Diamond (7-1)* 4 ran 1½l, 1½l L Cumani. Tote £1.40 DF £4.30 CSF £5.05

Placepot: £165.00. Quadpot: £3.40.

Worcester

Going: good to firm

6.00 (2m 4f hdle) 1. **Jennyellen** (P Carberry, 5-2 fav); 2. Yacht Club (9-1); 3. Mylordmayor (13-2) 14 ran 8l, 3½l F Murphy Tote £3.50; £1.30, £2.80, £2.60 DF £11.30 Trio £29.20 CSF £24.69 *Tricast £126.33*

6.30 (2m hdle) 1. **Shahrani** (D Bridgwater, 11-8 fav). 2. Zine Lane (11-4); 3. Chancey Fella (20-1) 10 ran NR Corporate Image *¾l, 14l. M Pipe. Tote £2.60; £1.10, £1.40,* £2.90 DF £3.40 Trio £21.80 CSF £5.62

7.00 (2m 4f hdle) 1. **Coast Along** (W Worthington, 8-1). 2. Hostile Witness (9-2). 3. *Stapleford Lady (4-1 jt-fav)* Call The Guv'nor 4-1 jt-fav. 11 ran 1½l, 8l P Bevan Tote £18.00; £3.70, £1.60, £1.40 DF £15.00 Trio £37.60 CSF £43.40 Tricast £156.56

7.30 (3m ch) 1. **Wille Makeit** (Mr J Culloty, 11-4 jt-fav). 2. Bit Of A Dream (12-1). 3. Exclusion (11-1) Forgetful 11-4 jt-fav 9 ran. 14l, 3l R Phillips Tote £3.00; £1.40, £2.30, £3.50. DF £20.40 Trio £205.40. CSF £30.99 Tricast £283.86

8.00 (2m 4f hdle) 1. **Prussia** (A P McCoy, 3-1 fav). 2. Stage Fright (14-1). 3. Polish Consul (9-1) 12 ran. NR Cuban Nights. Nk, 3l W Clay Tote £4.10; £1.40, £3.80, £3.10. DF £57.50 Trio £44.50 CSF £41.22

8.30 (2m 7f ch) 1. **Hurryup** (Mr J Culloty, 20-1). 2. Pharrago (20-1). 3. The Blue Boy (3-1 fav). 4. Jim Valentine (10-1). 17 ran. ¾l, 1½l. R Dickin. Tote: £32.70; £5.80, £8.90, £1.10, £2.30. DF £170.60 Trio £213.20 CSF £353.68 Tricast £1,426.32

9.00 (2m flat) 1. **Ultimate Smoothie** (D Bridgwater, 2-1); 2. Mr Lurpak (7-2); 3. Pridewood Fuggle (25-1) Regal Gem 15-8 fav 13 ran ¾l, ¾l M Pipe Tote £3.10; £1.30, £1.70, £3.50. DF £7.40 Trio £47.70 CSF £9.90

Placepot £66.20. Quadpot: £22.20.

THE TIMES

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RIPON

THUNDERER

2.35 Denton Lad. 3.10 Roi De La Mer. 3.40 King Of Sparta. 4.10 Western Sal. 4.40 Voila Premiere. 5.10 Backhander.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

2.35 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND ST GEMMA'S HOSPICE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,436: 5f) (7 runners)

1 4 CHEROKEE FLIGHT 15 Mrs J Ramsden 9-0 M Rimmer 6
2 DENTON LAD J Watts 9-0 N Connorton 5
3 50 MAZIL 7 (B) T Easterby 9-0 M Birch 2
4 2 NIGHT FLIGHT 59 J J O'Neill 9-0 K Darley 3
5 4 NO EXTRADITION 21 Mrs J Ramsden 9-0 M Deering 1
6 33 SODA 12 T Barron 9-0 J Fortune 4
7 U365 TEAR WHITE 4 (B) T Mills 9-0 T Williams 7

9-4 Night Flight, 3-1 No Extradition, 7-2 Denton Lad, Soda, 8-1 Cherokee Flight, 16-1 Mazil, 50-1 Tear White.

3.10 CENTAUR SELLING STAKES (£2,600: 1m) (12)

1 0000 BATTLE COLOURS 14 (D,F,G) E Incisa 7-9-7 Kim Tinkler 6
2 0440 *BLUE GRIT 18 (B,D,F,G,S) M Dods 10-9-7* J Fortune 12
3 0300 IRIE MOND'NAAN M Brittain 4-9-7 L Newton (5) 5
4 0030 ROI DE LA MER 14 (D,G) J Akehurst 5-9-7 K Darley 8
5 0040 STEEL SOVEREIGN 2 (F) M Dods 5-9-7 Dale Gibson 10
6 0000 *DANCE OF JOY 40 (D,G) J Carr 4-9-2* N Kennedy 3
7 0 MR BLUE 7 G Kelly 4-9-2 G Parkin (5) 1
8 0-0 NUKUD 115 G Oldroyd 4-9-2 J Lowe 7
9 4042 RAINDEER QUEST 11 (D,F,G) J Eyre 4-9-2 M Henry (3) 2
10 3233 DOUBLE OSCAR 14 (V,BF,F) M Johnston 3-8-13 J Fanning 4
11 0454 MILETRIAN CITY 18 (B) J Berry 3-8-8 S D Williams 11
12 3202 SIS GARDEN 9 (B) T Easterby 3-8-3 M Birch 9

9-4 Double Oscar, 3-1 Roi De La Mer, 11-2 Sis Garden, 6-1 Raindeer Quest, 7-1 *Miletrian City, Blue Grit, 12-1 Steel Sovereign, 15-1 others.*

3.40 READ HIND STEWART MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,048: 1m 1f) (7)

1 6222 KING OF SPARTA 12 (BF) L Cumani 9-0 K Darley 7
2 0- SAWA-ID 259 J Gosden 9-0 Dale Gibson 5
3 SWYNFORD SUPREME J Bottomley 9-0 J Lowe 1
4 4 BELBAY STAR 32 J Eyre 8-9 M Henry (3) 2
5 0035 DISALLOWED 17 M Bell 8-9 G Faulkner (7) 6
6 4403 DISPOL GEM 12 G Oldroyd 8-9 J Fortune 4
7 6-00 PAPER MAZE 11 E Owen Jr 8-9 Darren Moffatt (3) 3

7-4 King Of Sparta, 7-2 Dispol Gem, 4-1 Disallowed, 9-2 Sawa-Id, 5-1 Belbay Star, 20-1 Swynford Supreme, 66-1 Paper Maze.

4.10 RIPON BELL-RINGER HANDICAP (£7,059: 1m 4f 60yd) (10)

1 1530 RIPARIUS 17 (B,D,G,S) H Candy 5-10-0 J Fortune 1
2 5000 HIGHFLYING 21 (CD,F,G,S) G Moore 10-9-12 K Darley 5
3 0632 FAR AHEAD 15 (G,S) J Eyre 4-9-10 O Pears (3) 8
4 4316 *WESTERN SAL 22 (D,F,G) J L Harris 4-9-5* *Dale Gibson* 3
5 0003 QUIVIRA 22 (C,F,G) H Akbary 5-9-4 D Biggs 6
6 2412 EAGLE CANYON 14 (CD,F,G) B Hanbury 3-9-3 M Rimmer 4
7 -006 INDONESIAN 19 (F) P Calver 4-8-11 M Birch 2
8 1213 *KINGS CAY 3 (CD,F,G,S) T Caldwell 5-8-9* K M Chin (5) 10
9 3111 ETTERBY PARK 9 (D,F,G,S) M Johnston 3-8-3 J Fanning 7
10 0-30 SHARKASHKA 3 (D,G) T Easterby 6-8-2 T Williams 9

4-1 Etterby Park, 9-2 Kings Cay, 5-1 Far Ahead, Eagle Canyon, 6-1 Western Sal, 7-1 Quivira, 8-1 Highflying, 10-1 others.

4.40 LEEDS HOSPITAL FUND HANDICAP (£3,850: 1m 2f) (7)

1 0455 PERCY BRAITHWAITE 15 (F) M Johnston 4-10-0 K M Chin (5) 3
2 -550 KISSEL 21 (S) A Harrison 4-9-11 G Faulkner (7) 2
3 3-00 SOUTH SEA BUBBLE 23 L Cumani 4-9-2 K Darley 6
4 0032 VOILA PREMIERE 14 (F) M Tompkins 4-9-1 Dale Gibson 5
5 0225 TALENTED TING 8 (C,D,F,G) P Haslam 7-8-10 J Fortune 1
6 034 MALLOOH 21 J Gosden 3-8-10 M Henry (3) 4
7 6304 SUPERPRIDE 14 (S) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-9 M Birch 7

9-4 Voila Premiere, 3-1 Percy Braithwaite, 5-1 Mallooh, 11-2 Superpride, 7-1 Talented Ting, 10-1 Kissel, 12-1 South Sea Bubble.

5.10 TONY COCKERHAM MEMORIAL MAIDEN HANDICAP (£3,210: 6f) (12)

1 3000 BARRANAK 19 G McCourt 4-9-10 S D Williams 11
2 2440 BACKHANDER 14 M Wane 4-9-3 P Roberts (5) 1
3 5400 LAPU-LAPU 21 M Camacho 3-8-11 M Birch 12
4 0255 *MADAM ZANDO 37 J Balding 3-8-9* J Edmunds (7) 5
5 4432 CAMIONNEUR 5 (B) T Easterby 3-8-9 J Lowe 2
6 -045 NUTCRACKER SUITE 23 J Eyre 4-8-8 M Henry (3) 3
7 -005 DISTINCTLY SWINGIN 19 Miss L Perratt 3-8-1 J Fanning 7
8 0000 *NEWLANDS CORNER 22 (B) J Akehurst 3-7-12* T Williams 9
9 -006 DARE BUDGIE 19 (V) E Incisa 3-7-10 Kim Tinkler 4
10 0000 HARRIET'S BEAU 28 (B) M W Easterby 3-7-10 Dale Gibson 10
11 00-0 DONA FILIPA 8 Miss L Siddall 3-7-10 Darren Moffatt (3) 8
12 0-00 DANCING JAZZTIME 17 (V) J Wainwright 5-7-10 N Kennedy 6

11-4 Nutcracker Suite, 3-1 Camionneur, 7-2 Madam Zando, 6-1 Lapu-Lapu, 8-1 Newlands Corner, 12-1 Backhander, 16-1 Distinctly Swingin, 20-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: L Cumani, 9 winners from 33 runners, 27.3%; J Gosden, 13 from 53, 24.5%; M Johnston, 15 from 97, 15.5%; B Hanbury, 4 from 31, 12.9%; *J Berry, 17 from 134, 12.7%; P Haslam, 8 from 75,* 10.7%.

JOCKEYS: L Newton, 3 winners from 13 rides, 23.1%; K Darley, 33 from 166, 19.9%; N Connorton, 11 from 105, 10.5%. Only qualifiers.

Blinkered first time

AYR: 8.50 Docklands Carriage NEWBURY: 2.30 Nervous Rex. NEWMARKET: 4.15 Go Britannia, Hidden Oasis. RIPON: 2.35 Mazil 3.10 Double Oscar. 5.10 Dancing Jazztime, Newlands Corner

NOTTINGHAM

THUNDERER

2.20 Risky Rose. 2.50 Ikdam. 3.25 Cointosser. 4.00 Flying North. 4.35 Larissa. 5.05 Fresh Look.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

DRAW: 6F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.20 SCANIA 4-SERIES SELLING TROPHY HANDICAP (£2,658: 1m 6f 15yd) (18 runners)

1 2-03 FEARLESS WONDER 9 (B,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-10 S Copp (5) 5
2 2300 *GENESIS FOUR 21 (G) Mrs L Stubbs 6-9-7* R Hills 12
3 U021 RISKY ROSE 14 (CD,F,G) R Hollinshead 4-9-5 D Griffiths (5) 7
4 4500 TRUMBLE 19 (G) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-0 C Teague (3) 15
5 00/0 MONTY ROYALE 20 N Chance 7-8-11 T Ives 9
6 0-33 TTYFRAN 14 (F) B Baugh 6-8-9 W Lord 1
7 0525 BRESIL 12 (F) K Burke 7-8-8 W Woods 2
8 006/ PATSCILLA 35J R Dickin 5-8-8 T Sprake 6
9 0052 KINDRED GREETING 3 (B) J A Harris 4-8-6 J O'Reilly 3
10 0-03 SUPERMICK 12 W Muir 5-8-5 S Whitworth 11
11 -004 LA BELLE SHYANNE 12 R Baker 5-8-3 A Daly (5) 17
12 0000 HATS OF TO HILDA 12 Mrs M Reveley 4-8-1 N Carlisle 4
13 000- PORTOLANO 290J B Baugh 5-7-13 F Norton 16
14 56-6 TEOROMA 14 J Scargill 6-7-10 N Adams 13
15 -000 LUCY'S GOLD 9 M Ryan 5-7-10 A McCarthy (7) 18
16 -604 CLUB ELITE 14 M Barraclough 4-7-10 P P Murphy (5) 14
17 0600 FRIENDLY DREAMS 3 (B) P Dalton 3-7-10 R Cody-Boutcher (7) 8
18 00-0 PEGGY ESS 18 A James 3-7-10 Declan O'Shea 10

9-2 Fearless Wonder, 5-1 Kindred Greeting, 6-1 Risky Rose, Supermick, 13-2 Trumble, 7-1 Bresil, La Belle Shyanne, 10-1 others.

2.50 EAST MIDLAND COMMERCIALS FOR SCANIA MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,743: 6f 15yd) (7)

1 CATECHISM J Gosden 8-11 A Garth 7
2 CLASSIC LINE J Dunlop 8-11 T Ives 6
3 ICY GUEST R Charlton 8-11 T Sprake 1
4 3 *IKDAM 23 W Hern 8-11* R Hills 5
5 0 SODEN 17 T Mills 8-11 Mark Lynch 2
6 TELEMANIA W Haggas 8-11 W Woods 4
7 ZAIMA J Dunlop 8-11 S Whitworth 3

3-1 Ikdam, 4-1 Icy Guest, 9-2 Catechism, 5-1 Zaima, 6-1 Classic Line, 7-1 Telemania, 33-1 Soden

3.25 SCANIA 4-SERIES HORSEPOWER CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,857: 1m 54yd) (8)

1 4000 EXTRA HOUR 9 W Muir 8-13 S Whitworth 2
2 8-0 KEALBRA LADY 12 M Saunders 8-12 P P Murphy (5) 5
3 3221 COINTOSSER 17 (F) S Woods 8-10 W Woods 7
4 1250 HOW COULD-I 2 (B,CD,BF,F) Mrs N Macauley 8-10 T Ives 6
5 0 RENO'S TREASURE 17 J A Harris 8-6 T Sprake 1
6 6340 TALLULAH BELLE 15 N Littmoden 8-6 T G McLaughlin 4
7 0060 DIL DIL 15 (F) W Haggas 8-4 C Webb (7) 8
8 0606 CHILLY LOOKS 17 D Barker 8-0 N Carlisle 3

7-4 Cointosser, 7-2 Extra Hour, Chilly Looks, 4-1 Dil Dil, 6-1 How Could-I, 7-1 Tallulah Belle, 10-1 others.

4.00 SCANIA 1996 TRUCK OF THE YEAR TROPHY HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £6,347: 1m 54yd) (4)

1 31 VICTORIAN STYLE 42 (D,S) R Charlton 9-7 T Sprake 3
2 0-30 FLYING NORTH 76 (F) Mrs M Reveley 9-2 G Lee (5) 1
3 6212 ALAMBAR 35 (D,F) P Walwyn 9-1 R Hills 2
4 03-5 PASTERNAK 78 (BF) M Prescott 8-12 W Woods 4

6-4 Alambar, 7-4 Victorian Style, 7-2 Flying North, 6-1 Pasternak.

4.35 EAST MIDLAND COMMERCIALS-SCANIA KNOW HOW RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,833: 1m 1f 213yd) (9)

1 050- CIRCUS STAR 260 M Prescott 9-0 W Woods 2
2 000 CROWN AND CUSHION 26 K Bridgwater 9-0 V Slattery 1
3 3023 PHANTOM HAZE 17 Miss S Hall 9-0 S Drowne (3) 9
4 550- THE LEGIONS PRIDE 294 J Hills 9-0 S Whitworth 6
5 0-00 TOM SWIFT 47 R Spicer 9-0 P P Murphy (5) 3
6 044 LARISSA 37 G Wragg 8-11 R Hills 4
7 306 SAFA DANCER 14 B McMahon 8-11 F Norton 7
8 0553 TRILBY 18 P Cole 8-11 T Ives 5
9 -000 VENDETTA 15 I Balding 8-11 T Sprake 8

5-2 Trilby, 3-1 Larissa, 4-1 Phantom Haze, 5-1 Vendetta, 6-1 Circus Star, 7-1 Tom Swift, 10-1 The Legions Pride, 12-1 others

5.05 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD HANDICAP (£3,589: 1m 1f 213yd) (15)

1 4024 *RAGSAK JAMEEL 19 (B) W Hern 3-9-10* R Hills 7
2 0001 ROYAL THIMBLE 2 (V,F) N Chance 5-9-8 (5ex) A Daly (5) 15
3 0431 RACING HAWK 14 (CD,F) M Saunders 4-9-6 P P Murphy (5) 9
4 0000 D'NAAN 19 (B,G) W Haggas 3-9-5 Elizabeth Turner 2
5 3626 *AUGUSTAN 3 (D,F) S Gollings 5-9-4* V Halliday 6
6 6020 CONIC HILL 17 (D,F) J Pearce 5-9-2 G Bardwell 8
7 4054 BENJAMINS LAW 12 (G) J Pickering 5-9-0 T Ives 12
8 0141 MAZILLA 7 (CD,F,G) A Streeter 4-8-13 L Newton (5) 4
9 -003 FRESH LOOK 40 (B,G) R Spicer 4-8-11 T Sprake 3
10 03-0 PAT'S SPLENDOUR 200 (F) H Collingridge 5-8-10 N Adams 11
11 0-60 COURSE FISHING 12 (D,F) B McMahon 5-8-7 F Norton 10
12 8240 ZAHRAN 12 (F,G) J Bradley 5-8-6 S Drowne (3) 1
13 4400 LADY SABINA 12 (D,G) W Musson 6-8-3 Declan O'Shea 14
14 0306 SHUTTLECOCK 19 (G,S) *Mrs N Macauley* 5-8-3 C Teague (3) 13
15 05U1 MILLTOWN CLASSIC 12 (G) J Parkes 4-8-0 N Carlisle 5

9-2 Fresh Look, 5-1 Ragsak Jameel, 6-1 Racing Hawk, Mazilla, 7-1 Royal Thimble, Benjamins Law, 8-1 Milltown Classic, 10-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Gosden, 11 winners from 34 runners, 32.4%; R Charlton, 10 from 35, 28.6%; *M Prescott, 10 from 35, 28.6%*; W Haggas, 5 from 19, 26.3%; I Balding, 5 from 23, 21.7%; J L Dunlop, 21 from 105, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: T Sprake, 10 winners from 66 rides, 15.2%; R Hills, 11 from 80, 13.8%. Only qualifiers.

AYR TOMORROW

THUNDERER

2.20 Equal Rights. 2.50 Sunset Harbour. 3.20 Rich Glow. 3.50 Midyan Blue. *4.20 Elmi Elmak.* 4.50 Napoleon's Return.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW BEST

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.20 EBF SUNDAY MAIL RACING AHEAD MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,158: 7f) (3 runners)

101 2 *EQUAL RIGHTS 12 P Chapple-Hyam 9-0* *R Havlin (5)* 1
102 HAPPY MINSTRAL M Johnston 9-0 J Weaver 3
103 02 HURGILL DANCER 20 J Watts 9-0 N Connorton 2

4-6 Equal Rights, 7-4 Happy Minstral, 7-1 Hurgill Dancer

2.50 JOE PUNTER SELLING HANDICAP (£2,944: 5f) (12)

201 0000 TENOR 5 (D,G) D Nicholls 5-9-10 Alex Greaves 2
202 0045 MARJORIE ROSE 4 A Bailey 3-9-6 D Wright (3) 6
203 0040 PALLIUM 5 (D,F,G) Mrs A Naughton 8-9-4 J Weaver 7
204 2002 *LEADING PRINCESS 2 (B,CD,F,G) Miss L Perratt 5-9-3* J Bramhill (7) 8
205 0301 SUNSET HARBOUR 3 (F) S Kettlewell 3-9-1 (6ex) J Fortune 11
206 0624 SUNDAY MAIL TOO 16 (D,G,S) Miss L Perratt 4-8-13 K Darley 12
207 0-56 *KABCAST 15 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Chapman 11-8-11* J Carroll 5
208 0503 GONDO 13 (V,CD,F,G,S) E Alston 9-8-10 K Fallon 3
209 0045 ANOTHER NIGHTMARE 9 (D,S) R McKellar 4-8-2 T Williams 4
210 D-00 WAVERLEY STAR 48 (B,D,F,G,S) J Wainwright 11-7-13 J Quinn 10
211 0340 *DOUBLE GLOW 4 (B,D,F,G) N Bycroft 4-7-12* N Carlisle 9
212 0000 RANKAIDADE 20 (D,S) D Incisa 5-7-10 Kim Tinkler 1

9-2 Gondo, 5-1 Sunset Harbour, 6-1 Sunday Mail Too, Marjorie Rose, 7-1 Leading Princess, 8-1 Pallium, 10-1 Tenor, 12-1 others.

3.20 SUNDAY MAIL HANDICAP (£4,319: 6f) (12)

301 0010 FOR THE PRESENT 9 (D,F,G) T Barron 6-10-0 J Fortune 4
302 0016 WHITTLE ROCK 15 (B,D,F,G) E Alston 3-9-8 S Drowne (3) 7
303 0030 TILER 17 (C,D,F,G) M Johnston 4-9-7 J Weaver 1
304 6200 FRENCH GRIT 48 (D,F) M Dods 4-9-6 D McKeown 2
305 6101 GARNOCK VALLEY 30 (C,D,F,G,S) J Berry 6-9-5 J Carroll 5
306 4356 MISTER WESTSOUND 6 (B,CD,F) Miss L Perratt 4-8-13 J Bramhill (7) 6
307 6102 BARATO 15 (CD,F,G) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-10 K Fallon 3
308 4066 COLWAY RAKE 17 (B,D,G,S) J Watts 5-8-8 N Connorton 11
309 3211 CHEEKY CHAPPY 11 (B,D,F,G) D Chapman 5-8-7 J Quinn 12
310 3160 RICH GLOW 9 (C,F,S) N Bycroft 5-8-4 K Darley 10
311 0030 AMRON 8 (CD,F,G,S) J Berry 9-8-2 N Carlisle 8
312 0513 THWAAB 16 (V,CD,F) F Watson 4-7-10 N Kennedy 9

5-1 Garnock Valley, 6-1 Tiler, French Grit, 7-1 Whittle Rock, Barato, 8-1 For The Present, Cheeky Chappy, 10-1 others

3.50 TENNENT CALEDONIAN BREWERIES TROPHY (Handicap: £6,052: 1m 7f) (7)

401 2141 WELSH MILL 18 (G) Mrs M Reveley 7-9-10 G Lee (5) 1
402 2204 EMBRYONIC 22 (F) R Fisher 4-9-9 K Fallon 5
403 3033 SECRET SERVICE 22 (F) C Thornton 4-9-7 D McKeown 2
404 4634 *MIDYAN BLUE 16 (G) J Eustace 6-9-6* J Tate 3
405 1610 ORINOCO RIVER 31 (V,F,G) P Chapple-Hyam 3-9-3 R Havlin (5) 7
406 0651 BERLIN BLUE 13 (G) J Watts 3-8-8 J Carroll 4
407 0031 ROSSEL 19 (G) P Monteith 3-7-11 N Carlisle 6

3-1 Secret Service, 7-2 Welsh Mill, 4-1 Berlin Blue, 5-1 Embryonic, 6-1 Midyan Blue, Orinoco River, 14-1 Rossel.

4.20 TAM O'SHANTER GALLOP MAIDEN STAKES (£3,583: 1m) (7)

501 6/0 BARBARA'S JEWEL 17 A Bailey 4-9-6 D Wright (3) 6
502 0/ *GLEN GARNOCK 873 D Nicholls 4-9-6* J Fortune 3
503 0-6 SHAMOKIN 22 F Watson 4-9-6 J Weaver 7
504 0 LADY SEREN 48 S Kettlewell 4-9-1 N Rodgers 5
505 2 ELMI ELMAK 50 L Cumani 3-8-12 O Urbina 1
506 0500 *REALMS OF GLORY 15 (B) P Mitchell 3-8-12* J Quinn 4
507 44 SMOOTH ASSET 60 P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-7 R Havlin (5) 2

4-6 Elmi Elmak, 9-4 Smooth Asset, 8-1 Glen Garnock, 12-1 Shamokin, 20-1 Lady Seren, Realms Of Glory, Barbara's Jewel

4.50 ROBERT BURNS BICENTENARY HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,648: 7f) (10)

601 1332 SUNLEY SECURE 8 (F,S) M Channon 9-7 K Fallon 4
602 2246 PATHAZE 4 (C,F) N Bycroft 9-4 J Fortune 9
603 60-0 FANCY DESIGN 11 P Mitchell 9-3 K Darley 8
604 0122 NAPOLEON'S RETURN 17 (V,C,D,BF,F) A Harrison 9-0 Jenny Benson (7) 2
605 0341 ORIOLE 17 (CD,F,S) N Tinkler 9-0 Kim Tinkler 1
606 0010 NED'S CONTESSA 17 (D,F) M Dods 8-12 J Carroll 3
607 0004 MAGIC LAKE 10 E Alston 8-7 S Drowne (3) 7
608 30-0 VALES ALES 109 R McKellar 8-2 T Williams 5
609 0-00 YA MARHABA 25 J Payne 8-2 D Wright (3) 10
610 0600 AYE READY 17 (V) Miss L Perratt 7-11 J Quinn 6

3-1 Sunley Secure, 7-2 Oriole, 9-2 Napoleon's Return, 7-1 Pathaze, Ned's Contessa, 8-1 Magic Lake, 10-1 Vales Ales, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: S Kettlewell, 9 winners from 24 runners, 37.5%; P Chapple-Hyam, 14 from 42, 33.3%; Mrs J Ramsden, 12 from 57, 21.1%; Mrs M Reveley, 18 from 89, 20.2%; M Channon, 4 from 27, 14.8%; M Johnston, 17 from 119, 14.3%

JOCKEYS: J Tate, 5 winners from 21 rides, 23.8%; K Darley, 42 from 190, 22.1%; J Quinn, 3 from 15, 20.0%; J Weaver, 17 from 103, 16.5%; K Fallon, 17 from 119, 14.3%; J Fortune, 13 from 101, 12.9%.

AYR

THUNDERER

6.50 Gold Blade. 7.20 Stone Flower. 7.50 Faringdon Future. 8.20 Best Of All. 8.50 Double Park. 9.20 *Blatant Outburst.*

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

6.50 RONNIE GLENDINNING 60TH BIRTHDAY HANDICAP (Amateurs: £3,176: 1m 5f 13yd) (9 runners)

1 4311 GOLD BLADE 8 (F,G) J Pearce 7-12-0 Mrs L Pearce 1
2 -040 ELA MAN HOWA 3 (D,F,G) A Bailey 5-11-7 Miss Bridget Gatehouse (5) 4
3 1252 PHILMIST 12 (B,G) W Elsey 4-11-2 Miss A Elsey 9
4 -044 PEPITIST 8 M Hammond 5-10-10 C Bonner 5
5 1050 *DUTY SERGEANT 12 (F,G,S) P Mitchell 7-10-5* T McCarthy 6
6 6031 LAWN ORDER 8 (F) Mrs J Ramsden 3-10-1 Miss E Ramsden (5) 8
7 0006 JABAROOT 8 (B,F) R McKellar 5-9-11 Mrs C Williams (5) 3
8 -006 YAAKUM 3 (F,G) S Kettlewell 7-9-10 Mrs D Kettlewell 7
9 -000 *KALKO 12 (F) J Goldie 7-9-7* *Miss P Robson* 2

2-1 Lawn Order, 9-4 Gold Blade, 9-2 Philmist, 8-1 Pepitist, Ela Man Howa, 12-1 Duty Sergeant, 14-1 others.

7.20 HOURSTONS OF AYR CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,550: 5f) (6)

1 8516 BOLD BRIEF 19 (CD,F) Denys Smith 9-2 D McKeown 2
2 10 BRIDE'S REPRISAL 29 (D,F) M Channon 8-13 A Eddery (7) 5
3 12 JUST VISITING 40 (D,G) J Wilson 8-11 J Fortune 1
4 3123 ROBEC GIRL 8 (D,G) J Berry 8-11 K Darley 3
5 0466 *CANTSAYNOWT 8 R McKellar 8-7* *N Connorton* 6
6 6 STONE FLOWER 28 P Chapple-Hyam 8-7 R Havlin (5) 4

5-4 Stone Flower, 3-1 Robec Girl, 4-1 Bride's Reprisal, 5-1 Just Visiting, 10-1 Bold Brief, 25-1 Cantsaynowt.

7.50 EBF FIN ME OOT MILLPORT MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,518: 6f) (6)

1 33 BARITONE 38 (BF) J Watts 9-0 N Connorton 3
2 55 BARNBURGH BOY 50 (BF) T Barron 9-0 J Fortune 4
3 0 FARINGDON FUTURE 37 B Hills 9-0 K Fallon 5
4 2 *MARYLEBONE 15 (BF) J Berry 9-0* *K Darley* 2
5 SUGARFOOT N Tinkler 9-0 R Cochrane 6
6 435 TICKNTIMA 21 M Hammond 9-0 J Weaver 1

9-4 Baritone, 5-2 Marylebone, 3-1 Faringdon Future, 6-1 Barnburgh Boy, 8-1 Tickntima, 12-1 Sugarfoot.

8.20 ROTHMANS ROYALS NORTH SOUTH CHALLENGE SERIES (Handicap. £5,446: 7f) (7)

SKY

1 005- AXEMAN 304 (F) D Nicholls 4-10-0 J Fortune 2
2 600- CAVERS YANGOUS 327 (G,S) M Johnston 5-9-2 J Weaver 7
3 3454 SAGEBRUSH ROLLER 28 (D,F,G,S) J Watts 8-9-1 N Connorton 1
4 6230 QUILLING 5 (D,F) M Dods 4-9-0 D McKeown 5
5 0043 BEST OF ALL 8 (F,S) J Berry 4-8-13 K Darley 6
6 6232 MY GALLERY 8 (D,G,S) A Bailey 5-8-6 D Wright (3) 4
7 5041 ANONYM 12 (D,F,G) D Nicholls 4-8-7 J Bramhill (7) 3

9-4 Best Of All, 5-1 Quilling, Sagebrush Roller, My Gallery, 7-1 Cavers Yangous, Axeman, 8-1 Anonym.

8.50 TICKLY TAP NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O. £3,518: 6f) (6)

SKY

1 313 BURKES MANOR 7 (F) T Barron 9-7 J Fortune 2
2 222 DOUBLE PARK 43 M Johnston 9-2 J Weaver 5
3 043 PERPETUAL 15 M Prescott 8-8 K Darley 1
4 6511 DOCKLANDS CARRIAGE 11 (V,D,F) N Tinkler 8-7 R Cochrane 4
5 254 TOP OF THE WIND 67 J J O'Neill 8-6 K Fallon 6
6 4400 ALISADARA 29 N Bycroft 7-10 D Wright (3) 3

6-4 Double Park, 7-2 Burkes Manor, 9-2 Perpetual, 5-1 Docklands Carriage, 8-1 Top Of The Wind, 14-1 Alisadara.

9.20 GO EVENING RACING WITH THE DAILY TELEGRAPH MAIDEN STAKES (£3,518: 1m 2f) (5)

SKY

1 442 BLATANT OUTBURST 7 G Bravery 6-9-7 J Fortune 2
2 0-22 AMADOUR 21 P Mitchell 3-8-11 K Darley 3
3 00 *CREST WING 50 P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-11* *R Havlin (5)* 4
4 0-06 NEREUS 12 B Hills 3-8-11 K Fallon 5
5 THORNTOUN HOUSE J Goldie 3-8-11 D McKeown 1

Evens Blatant Outburst, 11-4 Amadour, 4-1 Nereus, 9-2 Crest Wing, 50-1 Thorntoun House

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: S Kettlewell, 9 winners from 24 runners, 37.5%; B Hills, 16 from 45, 35.6%; P Chapple-Hyam, 14 from 42, 33.3%; Mrs J Ramsden, 12 from 57, 21.1%; M Prescott, 5 from 25, 20.0%; M *Channon, 4 from 27, 14.8%.*

JOCKEYS: K Darley, 42 winners from 190 rides, 22.1%; R Cochrane, 3 from 15, 20.0%; J Weaver, 17 from 103, 16.5%; K Fallon, 17 from 119, 14.3%; J Fortune, 13 from 101, 12.9%; D McKeown, 7 from 70, *10.0%*

YARMOUTH TOMORROW

THUNDERER

2.00 Another Quarter. 2.30 Taufan Rookie. 3.00 Bubble Wings. 3.30 North Cyclone. 4.00 Blue Duster. 4.30 Verzen. 5.00 **CHATHAM ISLAND** (nap).

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Another Quarter. 3.30 **YAMUNA** (nap). 4.30 Verzen.

GOING: FIRM SIS

DRAW: 7F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.00 UPTON SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,222: 1m 2f 21yd) (7 runners)

1 0153 CRY BABY 19 (B,G) N Tinkler 9-3 M J Kinane 3
2 60 HAPPY VENTURER 37 C Murray 8-11 M Tebbutt 7
3 -300 KUWAM 18 B Hanbury 8-11 J Stack 1
4 6466 SNOW FALCON 17 M Bell 8-11 M Fenton 6
5 4424 ANOTHER QUARTER 11 (B,BF) S Woods 8-6 W Woods 4
6 0- MUSIC IN MOTION 288 P Howling 8-6 B Thomson 5
7 NANNY-B P Howling 8-6 F Norton 2

9-4 Another Quarter, 3-1 Cry Baby, Snow Falcon, 4-1 Kuwam, 14-1 Happy Venturer, 20-1 Music In Motion, Nanny-B.

2.30 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND ACLE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,388: 6f 3yd) (4)

1 AL MASROOR J Payne 9-0 B Thomson 1
2 24 TAUFAN ROOKIE 30 R Hannon 9-0 Pat Eddery 2
3 40 ZUGUDI 12 B Hanbury 9-0 M Rimmer 4
4 5 ADMONISH 46 M Jarvis 8-9 P Bloomfield 3

1-3 Taufan Rookie, 5-1 Admonish, 8-1 Zugudi, 12-1 Al Masroor

3.00 SUNDAY HANDICAP (£3,729: 1m 3yd) (7)

1 1460 SAIFAN 12 (V,CD,F,G) D Morris 7-10-0 C Hodgson 4
2 -003 AEROKING 12 (G) G Harwood 5-9-12 A Clark 6
3 2151 BUBBLE WINGS 12 (D,F,G) S Woods 4-9-3 W Woods 2
4 64-5 A-AASEM 43 H Thomson Jones 3-9-0 R Hills 3
5 0353 TALATHATH 18 (V) C Dwyer 4-9-0 M Hills 5
6 0326 TISSUE OF LIES 15 M Johnston 3-8-11 P Robinson 1
7 1316 MISTER WOODSTICK 30 (D,BF,F) M Jarvis 3-8-0 W Carson 7

11-4 Aeroking, 7-2 Bubble Wings, 9-2 Saifan, 5-1 Talathath, 7-1 A-Aasem, 8-1 Mister Woodstick, Tissue Of Lies.

3.30 PLEASURE BEACH MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,696: 7f 3yd) (10)

1 3-52 CERDAN 8 M Stoute 9-0 T Quinn 7
2 0-0 ENAMEL TIGER 8 K McAuliffe 9-0 D R McCabe 2
3 P *ENDAXI SAM 13 R Ingram 9-0* *D Holland* 8
4 4452 MELT THE CLOUDS 16 P Harris 9-0 G Hind 3
5 30- MUHANDIS 282 J Gosden 9-0 W Carson 6
6 2 NORTH CYCLONE 143 C Brittain 9-0 B Doyle 5
7 *CLASSIC DAME R Harris 8-9* A Mackay 4
8 60 SQUARE MILE MISS 11 P Howling 8-9 F Norton 1
9 WITH CARE W Jarvis 8-9 B Thomson 9
10 5- YAMUNA 428 H Cecil 8-9 Pat Eddery 10

9-4 Yamuna, 3-1 Melt The Clouds, 4-1 Cerdan, 7-1 Muhandis, 8-1 North Cyclone, 10-1 With Care, 12-1 others.

4.00 TUNSTALL FILLIES CONDITIONS STAKES (3-Y-O: £4,982: 7f 3yd) (5)

1 111- BLUE DUSTER 299 (F,G) D Loder 9-2 M J Kinane 3
2 113- *DEFINED FEATURE 323 (C,F) M Stoute 8-9* Pat Eddery 2
3 2 NANSHAN 158 (BF) D Loder 8-9 D R McCabe 4
4 -323 UNCONDITIONAL LOVE 12 (F) M Johnston 8-9 M Hills 5
5 2 WITH THE TEMPO 15 J Scargill 8-9 M Fenton 1

4-5 Blue Duster, 3-1 Defined Feature, 7-2 Unconditional Love, 20-1 Nanshan, With The Tempo

4.30 BROADLAND 102 HANDICAP (£7,934: 7f 3yd) (5)

1 4302 DOUBLE BLUE 8 (D,F,G,S) M Johnston 7-9-7 M Hills 3
2 2-03 *VERZEN 25 (D,F) D Loder 4-9-4* *D R McCabe* 4
3 5400 MOMENTS OF FORTUNE 15 (F,G) B Hanbury 4-9-0 W Ryan 1
4 -034 LAAFEE 36 (F) H Thomson Jones 3-8-12 R Hills 5
5 1200 TAWAADED 29 (D,F) P Walwyn 3-8-2 W Carson 2

15-8 Verzen, 9-4 Double Blue, 5-1 Laafee, 6-1 Moments Of Fortune, Tawaaded.

5.00 REPPS HANDICAP (£4,124: 1m 3f 101yd) (4)

1 0223 CHATHAM ISLAND 18 (C,F,G) C Brittain 8-9-10 B Doyle 2
2 2161 CANTON VENTURE 4 (D,F,G) S Woods 4-9-9 (5ex) W Woods 3
3 3042 KAAFIH HOMM 6 (BF,F,G,S) N Callaghan 5-9-2 M J Kinane 1
4 0000 PETOSKIN 30 (S) J Pearce 4-9-0 G Bardwell 4

5-4 Canton Venture, 5-2 Chatham Island, 11-4 Kaafih Homm, 10-1 Petoskin.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Johnston, 7 winners from 25 runners, 28.0%; H Thomson Jones, 20 from 81, 24.7%; *J Gosden, 19 from 84, 22.6%; H* Cecil, 18 from 84, 21.4%; M Stoute, 16 from 96, 16.7%; C Dwyer, 3 from 18, 16.7%.

JOCKEYS: D Holland, 9 winners from 36 rides, 25.0%; R Hills, 31 from 141, 22.0%; Pat Eddery, 11 from 57, 19.3%; M Hills, 26 from 152, 17.1%; W Ryan, 22 from 132, 16.7%; G Hind, 9 from 58, 15.5%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME TOMORROW: Ayr: 3.20 Whittle Rock. 4.20 Realms Of Glory. 4.50 Aye Ready: Stratford: 2.10 Buyers Dream.

WARWICK

THUNDERER

6.35 Paddy's Rice. 7.05 Double Gold. 7.35 Traceability. 8.05 Marchman. 8.35 Divina Luna. 9.05 Chadwell Hall.

GOING: FIRM SIS

DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

6.35 FERNDALE APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£2,494: 7f) (9 runners)

1 -000 WHATEVER'S RIGHT 33 (CD,F,G) M Usher 7-9-10 R Brisland (7) 7
2 1005 PADDY'S RICE 10 (CD,F) M McCormack 5-9-10 J Wilkinson 1
3 0005 FLAG FEN 16 (G,S) M Meade 5-9-9 Claire Angell (10) 4
4 5055 AQUADO 4 (B,D,F,G) S Bowring 7-9-7 D Denby 3
5 0235 MR CUBE 17 (B,CD,BF,F,G) J Bradley 6-9-4 C Lowther (5) 5
6 -000 SHARP HOLLY 14 (B) J Bennett 4-8-10 R Mullen 2
7 3406 HOTLIPS HOULIHAN 156 (C,D,F) R Williams 3-8-3 K Sked 8
8 0006 RESPECTABLE JONES 17 (B,C,D,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 10-8-2 S Crawford (10) 6
9 -263 *HAVE A NIGHTCAP 9 (V) N Littmoden 7-8-1* *David O'Neill (5)* 9

11-4 Aquado, 3-1 Have A Nightcap, 7-2 Paddy's Rice, 4-1 Flag Fen, 8-1 Mr Cube, 10-1 Sharp Holly, Hotlips Houlihan, 12-1 others.

7.05 LAMMAS FIELD MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,857: 7f) (11)

1 30 JACK THE LAD 32 C Murray 8-9 M Tebbutt 3
2 05 KAISER KACHE 21 K McAuliffe 8-7 W J O'Connor 8
3 506 SKELTON SOVEREIGN 37 R Hollinshead 8-5 F Lynch (3) 6
4 02 DOUBLE GOLD 7 B Meehan 8-4 B Doyle 1
5 04 ZANABAY 7 Martyn Meade 8-4 F Norton 5
6 06 HERBSHAN DANCER 23 B Millman 8-3 S Drowne (3) 9
7 0 IVORY DAWN 10 K Ivory 8-2 N Adams 11
8 005 MY PRECIOUS 26 M McCormack 8-2 S Sanders 2
9 005 SHALL WE GO 7 R Hannon 8-2 J F Egan 4
10 TARIFF N Graham 8-2 T Sprake 7
11 222 SMUGURS 5 (BF) R Williams 8-0 J Quinn 10

3-1 Smugurs, 4-1 Jack The Lad, 5-1 Double Gold, 6-1 Herbshan Dancer, 7-1 My Precious, Kaiser Kache, 10-1 Skelton Sovereign, 12-1 others.

7.35 SYD MERCER HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,695: 1m 2f 169yd) (6)

1 0002 INFAMOUS 12 (S) P Cole 9-9 D Griffiths (5) 5
2 4010 TRACEABILITY 30 (CD,F,G) S Williams 9-6 G Carter 3
3 3165 MAJOR DUNDEE 14 (F) R Hannon 9-3 Dane O'Neill (3) 2
4 P013 BARANOV 5 (CD,F) D Murray Smith 8-4 D Harrison 4
5 1352 ALLSTARS EXPRESS 3 (F) T Naughton 8-3 T Sprake 6
6 -214 SPA LANE 14 (F) P Makin 7-10 J Quinn 1

3-1 Spa Lane, 7-2 Infamous, 4-1 Baranov, 5-1 Traceability, Allstars Express, 6-1 Major Dundee

8.05 ASHORNE SELLING HANDICAP (£2,070: 1m 4f 115yd) (7)

SKY

1 -155 MARCHMAN 17 (D,F) J King 11-9-10 T Quinn 7
2 -000 RUPIANA 31 (F) C Murray 4-9-9 M Tebbutt 1
3 0320 ZELIBA 11 Mrs N Macauley 4-8-9 J Quinn 5
4 0-00 WOODLANDS ENERGY 7 P Pritchard 5-8-9 N Adams 2
5 0001 DOTS DEE 12 (F) J Bradley 7-8-7 T Sprake 4
6 0-00 SPICE AND SUGAR 26 (D,F,S) B Cambidge 6-8-7 S Drowne (3) 3
7 0503 HUNZA STORY 7 (F) N Littmoden 4-8-4 Jo Hunnam (7) 6

6-4 Dots Dee, 9-4 Marchman, 7-2 Zeliba, 8-1 Spice And Sugar, 12-1 Hunza Story, 16-1 Rupiana, Woodlands Energy

8.35 WARWICK LIMITED STAKES (£3,662: 7f) (4)

SKY

1 0143 ZELDA ZONK 16 (D,F) B Meehan 4-9-4 B Doyle 2
2 2300 DAWALIB 33 (CD,F,G) D Haydn Jones 6-9-3 T Quinn 3
3 1231 DIVINA LUNA 8 (D,F,G) J Hills 3-8-11 M Henry (3) 1
4 1522 ARTERXERXES 9 (D,F) M Heaton-Ellis 3-8-10 S Drowne (3) 4

6-4 Divina Luna, 15-8 Arterxerxes, 9-4 Zelda Zonk, 12-1 Dawalib

9.05 HENLEY IN ARDEN LIMITED STAKES (£2,988: 5f) (6)

SKY

1 5410 CHADWELL HALL 7 (B,CD,F,G,S) S Bowring 5-9-8 C Teague (3) 2
2 3041 PALACEGATE TOUCH 8 (B,D,G,S) J Berry 6-9-8 G Carter 1
3 3212 SWAN AT WHALLEY 12 (D,F,G) M Wane 4-9-5 P Roberts (5) 6
4 21-4 STATISTICIAN 17 (F) John Berry 4-9-2 K M Chin (5) 4
5 0633 *SUPER ROCKY 10 (B,D,F,G) R Bastiman 7-9-2* *H Bastiman (5)* 5
6 05-0 WINDRUSH BOY 71 (D,F) J Bosley 6-9-2 R Perham 3

3-1 Swan At Whalley, 7-2 Chadwell Hall, Super Rocky, 4-1 Palacegate Touch, 6-1 Windrush Boy, 8-1 Statistician.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: S Williams, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; R Williams, 4 from 16, 25.0%; P Cole, 16 from 83, 19.3%; M Heaton-Ellis, 6 from 32, 18.8%; K Ivory, 6 from 36, 16.7%; J Berry, 13 from 79, 16.5%.

JOCKEYS: T Quinn, 19 winners from 103 rides, 18.4%; G Carter, 15 *from 104, 14.4%; M Tebbutt, 3 from 26, 11.5% Only qualifiers.*

STRATFORD TOMORROW

THUNDERER

2.10 Sian Wyn. 2.40 Dino Malta. 3.10 Rolfe. 3.40 Andrelot. 4.10 Efharisto. 4.40 Zahid.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.10 WEST MIDLAND TRAVEL SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,982: 2m 110yd) (10 runners)

1 011- SWEDISH INVADER 22F (F) J White 5-11-10 A P McCoy
2 -152 SIAN WYN 8 (D,BF,F,S) K Burke 6-11-7 R Dunwoody
3 220- BUYERS DREAM 138 (V) B Ellison 6-11-3 A Dobbin
4 R40- KING OF BABYLON 67 F Jordan 4-10-10 P Carberry
5 65-F SET-EM-ALIGHT 43 B Smart 6-10-3 I Lawrence
6 6-34 MINNESOTA FATS 8 Miss M Rowland 4-10-1 Gary Lyons
7 000 LASER LIGHT LADY 22 N Littmoden 4-10-0 B Powell
8 4U-0 STAY HAPPY 32 A Newcombe 7-10-0 B Fenton
9 0/3- CLANCY'S EXPRESS 51 J Fox 5-10-0 S Fox
10 FP-P *ON THE LEDGE 18 H Manners 6-10-0* *A Dowling (7)*

9-4 Swedish Invader, 11-4 Sian Wyn, 4-1 Buyers Dream, 5-1 King Of Babylon, 8-1 Set-Em-Alight, 10-1 Minnesota Fats, Clancy's Express, 12-1 others.

2.40 DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE NOVICES CHASE (£4,029: 3m) (11)

1 140- ABALENE 16F (F,G) T Donnelly 7-11-0 T Eley
2 5F50 ARTFUL ARTHUR 3 (G) L Grassick 10-11-0 Mr J Grassick
3 -444 DUSTYS TRAIL 8 (F,S) P Bowen 7-11-0 Mr R Thornton (7)
4 -46P HIZAL 24 (F) H Manners 7-11-0 Mr A Charles-Jones
5 /0P PRIESTHILL 8 D Williams 7-11-0 P Holley
6 F-P SAXON BLADE 32 R Stronge 8-11-0 W McFarland
7 -4PP STORM WARRIOR 11 (B,G) T Wall 11-11-0 R Massey (3)
8 622- DINO MALTA 59 (S) D Nicholson 5-10-9 A Maguire
9 5/0- *SIGNE DE MARS Miss Z Green 5-10-9* *K Jones*
10 42-6 STICKY MONEY 32 (S) M Pipe 8-10-9 D Bridgwater
11 33-F WAKT 24 (F,S) J White 6-10-9 B Fenton

5-2 Dino Malta, 4-1 Abalene, 5-1 Sticky Money, 6-1 Wakt, 8-1 Dustys Trail, 10-1 Artful Arthur, Storm Warrior, 12-1 others

3.10 *MILLENNIUM COPTHORNE HOTELS* HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,378: 2m 110yd) (9)

1 010- STAR MARKET 120 (B,CD,F,G,S) J Spearing 6-12-0 A P McCoy
2 11-1 ROLFE 42 (B,CD,F,G) D Nicholson 6-11-13 A Maguire
3 50-1 ROUTING 11 (D,F) N Ayliffe 8-11-11 C Maude
4 22/ FIELDRIDGE 18F (G) M Muggeridge 7-11-2 B Powell
5 -0F0 WAMDHA 11 (D,F,G,S) K Morgan 6-11-1 A S Smith
6 -135 LADY CONFESS 11 (CD,F) J Upson 6-10-5 R Supple
7 23-2 *SARMATIAN 21F (D,BF,F,G) M Hammond 5-10-5* *N Williamson*
8 00-0 SHIFTING MOON 11 (B,F) F Jordan 4-10-3 P Carberry
9 2-26 COMMANCHE CREEK 22 J du Plessis 6-10-0 Sophie Mitchell (5)

9-4 Rolfe, 7-2 Routing, 5-1 Star Market, 6-1 Sarmatian, 8-1 Shifting Moon, Fieldridge, 10-1 others.

3.40 RICHARDSON DEVELOPMENTS OLDBURY SUMMER CUP (Handicap chase: £7,059: 2m 4f) (11)

1 23-1 NORDIC SUN 18 (D,G,S) L Lloyd-James 8-12-0 M Dwyer
2 -121 SASKIA'S HERO 24 (F,G,S) J Bottomley 9-11-10 D Byrne
3 P-32 ANDRELOT 8 (B,BF,D,F,G) P Bowen 9-11-8 R Dunwoody
4 P2-0 WISE ADVICE 44 (D,F) M Hammond 6-11-0 R Garritty
5 2P-P MAGIC BLOOM 29 (D,F,G) J Jefferson 10-10-12 R Davis
6 0-32 HENLEY REGATTA 32 (F) P Rodford 8-10-6 S Burrough
7 PF- *POACHER'S DELIGHT 70P (F,G) A Newcombe 10-10-6* B Fenton
8 P22- MAPLE DANCER 62 (D,F,G) F Jordan 10-10-1 R Greene
9 022- FOREST FEATHER 64 (B,G) C Weedon 8-10-0 M Richards
10 5R-6 MANAMOUR 11 (F) R Lee 9-10-0 C Llewellyn
11 D-23 FLYING ZIAD 24 (D,F,G) H Manners 13-10-0 A Dowling (7)

3-1 Forest Feather, 9-2 Nordic Sun, 5-1 Saskia's Hero, 6-1 Andrelot, 7-1 Maple Dancer, 8-1 Wise Advice, 12-1 others.

4.10 96.4 FM BRMB NOVICES HURDLE (£2,192: 2m 6f 110yd) (5)

1 R-31 EFHARISTO 18 (B,G) J White 7-11-6 R Dunwoody
2 2-16 SIGMA WIRELESS 3 (F,G) T Forster 7-11-5 S Wynne
3 0- CHAPS 148 Miss K George 6-10-12 P McLoughlin
4 -0U4 DANCING AT LAHARN 24 Miss S Wilton 6-10-12 A P McCoy
5 00- *MISTER GENEROSITY 78 C Weedon 5-10-12* *M Richards*

Evens Efharisto, 2-1 Sigma Wireless, 5-1 Dancing At Laharn, 8-1 Mister Generosity, 16-1 Chaps.

4.40 RICHARDSONS HAPPY FAMILY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,262: 2m 110yd) (8)

1 2-11 ZAHID 29 (D,F) K Burke 5-12-0 R Johnson
2 6-P1 DENOMINATION 8 (D,F) M Pipe 4-11-4 D Bridgwater
3 042- SWEET DISORDER 55 H Manners 6-11-1 A Dowling (7)
4 554- *DESERT CHALLENGER 57 (B) J Jenkins 6-10-10* A P McCoy
5 060- PRINCE OF SPADES 15F F Jordan 4-10-0 Mr J Culloty (3)
6 US-0 COUNTRYWIDE LAD 22 M Madgwick 7-10-0 B Fenton
7 5/6 LITTLE ROUSILLON 24 T Greathead 8-10-0 W Humphreys
8 /0-P *MARKETING MAN 29 J White 6-10-0* *D Bohan (7)*

2-1 Zahid, 3-1 Desert Challenger, 7-2 Sweet Disorder, 4-1 Denomination, 14-1 Prince of Spades, 20-1 Little Rousillon, 25-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 21 winners from 85 runners, 24.7%; D Nicholson, 12 from 51, 23.5%; J Upson, 4 from 20, 20.0%; R Lee, 3 from 18, 16.7%; J White, 10 from 73, 13.7%; T Forster, 5 from 39, 12.8%.

JOCKEYS: S Wynne, 6 winners from 22 rides, 27.3%; A Maguire, 25 *from 92, 27.2%; R Dunwoody, 20 from 91, 22%; C Llewellyn, 12 from* 60, 20.0%; T Eley, 6 from 30, 20.0%

OLYMPIC GAMES: TRACKING HIS FAMILY FOR LONG-AWAITED REUNION A PARAMOUNT OBJECTIVE FOR MIDDLE-DISTANCE ATHLETE

Searching for more than Atlanta gold

Andrew Longmore meets an Irish runner hoping for one last twist in the most bizarre American tale

Healy proudly sports the Ireland colours as he contemplates what he might gain from his experience in Atlanta. Photograph: Marc Aspland

A FAMOUS face will appear in the Olympic village next week and Shane Healy cannot wait to see it again. Noureddine Morceli and Healy go back a long way, to the days when both were studying in California. They would meet in inter-state track championships, Healy struggling along at the back, Morceli tearing up the front. Their paths have crossed occasionally since and each time the reaction of Morceli, the world 1,500 metres champion, has been the same.

"He just shakes his head and mutters: 'You crazy Irish'," Healy said. "He won't believe it when he sees me here." He is not the only one. Healy himself is still blinking. "I haven't planned this," he said. "Everything has just fallen into place."

Healy is looking for two other faces in his life — more important faces. One belongs to his mother, Maureen, who walked out of the family home in Dublin one night in 1972 and never came back; the other to his elder sister, Lorraine, who left with her mother the same night. Healy was brought up by his father and, if any sense of bitterness once lingered in his slim frame, only sadness now remains alongside the battered old photo that he keeps.

"I've no idea whether she's alive or dead," he said. "I would just love her to see me race in the Olympics and come forward so that I can touch her and know that she is well."

All other avenues have failed. Two years ago, Healy saw a photo of a girl at the Galway Oyster Festival in a newspaper. The caption said that she was Lorraine Healy. Healy rang her up. She was the right age, but she came from Cork, not Dublin, and had no brothers. "There are two pieces of the jigsaw still missing," Healy said.

The puzzle is complicated enough as it is. Healy did not discover running until he was 21, five years ago. Before then, he had lived out the life of the Irish rover, moving from town to town, making do, never stopping too long, never finding what he was looking for.

An atlas has been the symbol of Healy's past, not a stopwatch. He has hauled buckets of cement up hills in Gibraltar, sailed boats across oceans, been a waiter in Hawaii, hitched across Canada when the windchill factor was minus 35, lived in camper vans and slept rough in Colorado. The characters which pepper his adventures are pure James Joyce. He has a story for every town and tells them with a tongue that turns "r" into "w".

The search ended in the locker-rooms of a community college in California, where Healy had enrolled as a $50-a-term general arts student and most of the students were black or Asian.

"I used to shower in the locker-rooms because I was living in the camper van at the time and I met some of the black sprinters who were on the college programme," he said. "They would say: 'Hey, coach, there's that mad Irishman'. The coach was a guy called Archie Owens and he knew the Irish had a good history of middle-distance runners — Eamonn Coghlan, Marcus O'Sullivan — so he said he would pay me $50 to run a mile. I didn't even know how many times round the track that wasn but 50 bucks was a lot of money. So I did it."

Healy clocked 4min 32sec in battered tennis shoes and a pair of old shorts. Owens said that he would pay Healy's weekly grocery bills if he agreed to join the track programme.

Fast forward to Adams State University, in Colorado, and a call to Joe Vigil, the doyen of United States middle-distance running. Healy is standing next to the bowling alley in Alamosa, Colorado, ringing Vigil, the head of the university's training programme. He had hitched from California. "Hey, son," Vigil said, "where are you? The bowling alley? Hang on."

"He knew he had someone special then because I wanted to run for him so bad," Healy said. Within a year, Healy had an athletics scholarship at Adams and a personal best of 3min 45sec for 1,500 metres.

That was not the end of Healy's struggle, though; not by a long way. Last winter, he spent three months in a hostel for the homeless while training in Denver. Money was so tight that he was beginning to get desperate. Then — and this is a theme in Healy's life — another impromptu connection was made. An article in *Irish Runner* highlighted his plight. A researcher from RTE, the radio station, picked up the story. Healy was invited on to the Pat Kenny morning show and the Irish love of romance did the rest.

"Here I was, a kid from the backstreets who had done everything by myself, and they identified with that," he said. Sponsors came forward, the Irish Olympic fund granted him £2,000. He persuaded Eamonn Coghlan, the 1983 world champion at 5,000 metres, to be his coach. All he needed was to qualify for the Olympics, which he did, with typical panache, at the eleventh hour in burning heat in a nondescript meeting in Madrid. Coghlan was so happy that he rushed out of his house and danced a jig.

Healy will do well to qualify for the semi-finals at the Games, but that matters little. If the world watches his 3½-minute run, the other half of his dream might yet be fulfilled.

"It would mean more to me than an Olympic gold to find my mother," he said. "The running is important, it's brought me from nothing to here, but part of me is running for her."

Women getting to grips with a not-so-gentle art

SIMON BARNES

Atlanta sketch

It's not a game for tarts, you know. An ancient footballing expression, one traditionally tossed at a team-mate complaining of anything from a bruise to a broken leg. It says it all, really: us chaps, a mixture of comradeship and aggression. Not the sort of things that tarts can relate to, is it?

So there I was, in a tiny curtained-off cubicle, ten metres by ten, and in tremendous peril. Travelling circuses used to put a man in a tiny cage on wheels containing half a dozen lions. It was all snarls and flashing claws and bared teeth while the lion-tamer desperately sought to hold his own with a bentwood chair and a whip.

It was like that with me and the Great Britain women's judo team. They had just flown in from their training camp in Tallahassee, where they had been going the tiniest bit stir-crazy. Now the Games were at last to begin and they were ready to rumble. It was wonderful, sitting there watching these women tearing the bejasus out of each other. Power, energy, purpose, it was splendid to be close to such things. They were not really trying to kill each other; at least, I don't think so.

This was a jam session, not a gig; ideas were picked up, explored, discarded. This was controlled experiment and work-out, a session that got body and mind working with speed and precision. They were going at each other at about 80 per cent. As the Duke of Wellington said, I hope they frighten the enemy because they terrify the life out of me.

"First blood wound of the day," the physio, Karen Sibilia, said, mopping up the claret. "Our women," Neil Adams, the team manager, said, "have got to be as physical as other fighters."

The other fighters must be something, then. The last time I saw Nicola Fairbrother, it was in a tea-shop in Sandhurst. They would not serve her if they saw her as I did, shock of blonde hair all over the place, teeth bared, hands curved like grappling irons, the light of battle in her eyes. Wonderful stuff.

There should be medals coming to this little room full of fighters, but you can make your own guess about who and what colour. "Judo is a crazy, unpredictable event," Fairbrother said. "Especially at the Olympic Games."

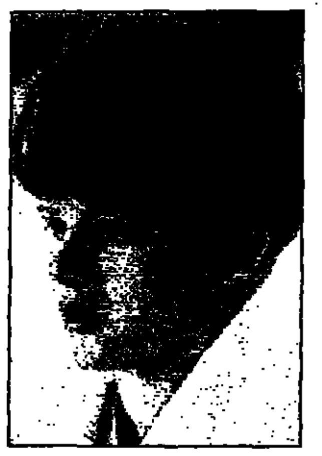
These are the women's Games all right. They say this every year, but only because it is true. Every year brings us more Olympic women. One hundred years ago, at the first Olympics, there were 311 athletes, all of them male. In 1900 two sports were open to women, golf and tennis, and there were 11 competitors.

This year there are 10,700 athltes and 3,779 of them are women, more athletes and more women than ever before. There is scarcely a sport they will not contest and two of them, admittedly rather daft ones, are for women only, these being synchronised swimming and rhythmic gymnastics. These judo fighters offer something a little more substantial than chocolate-box femininity. Odd to think that women's judo has only been a full Olympic sport once before.

While the United States is getting just a little bit bored with the tackiness of the *Dream Team* of millionaire basketball players, there are all kinds of good vibes going for the American women's basketball team. The Reality Team, if you like. Professional women's bastketball is due to start in the United States after the Games and promoters are eager to launch it with a touch of gold.

The players themselves look purposeful and tough, rather than Flo-Jo glamorous. Among them is Sheryl Swoopes, who has a great name and is now celebrated as the first woman in history to have a pair of sneakers named after her; I'll take a pair of Air Swoopes.

Business is at the heart of much of this. Woman as audience, as client, as customer. NBC plans to show no boxing at all at prime time, because women always switch it off. Their biggest sell is the women's gymnastics. But strip away the layers of glitz and marketing and nonsense and you come down to what matters. Refine this further and find the distilled essence of it all in a small room at a place called Grady High School. The truth about women's sport is to be found in the Fairbrother snarl.



Fairbrother: has the light of battle in her eyes

Rendle ready to live up to great expectations

Stevens: will face strong opposition

From John Goodbody
in Atlanta

GREAT Britain expects medals and judo has not disappointed in the past six Olympic Games. Since 1972, 40 Britons have competed in judo at the Games and they have won a total of 15 medals.

Neil Adams, who took silver medals in 1980 and 1984, believes that almost any of the squad could finish on the podium. "We have chances in virtually every category," he said. There are 14 categories, seven for the men, seven for women, and Britain has competitors in 13 of them.

Adams said: "Yesterday's draw was a mixture of good and bad things. At this level, we cannot expect anything else. Some will rise to the occasion, but all matches at this level are hard."

Because of the tough qualifying system, only 63 countries are represented here, but these are the genuine elite of the sport. In previous Games, people did not have to qualify and a fighter could draw a relatively easy opponent in the early rounds.

Adams picked out the featherweights, Sharon Rendle, the 1996 European champion, and Julian Davies, runner-up at those championships in May, as having secured the most favourable draws. They compete on Thursday. Rendle, 30, from Hull, finished first at the 1988 Games, when women's judo was only a demonstration sport, and was third in 1992.

The first Briton to compete will be Michelle Rogers, from Manchester, who takes part in the heavyweight category today. At the European championships in May, she overcame more experienced opponents and is now rapidly fulfilling the promise she demonstrated when she took the European junior title in 1994.

The team would gain tremendously in spirit and confidence if Rogers, 20, or either of the light-heavyweights, Ray Stevens and Kate Howey, get in the top three. Both Stevens and Howey won medals in Barcelona in 1992.

Stevens fights in the most demanding of all categories, which is bristling with technically proficient and immensely aggressive 15st men. They include Pawel Nastula, the world and European champion, from Poland, and Stephane Trineau, nicknamed "The Tornado", from France. Stevens, 32, will do well if he wins a medal. Howey, with her sudden pick-ups and change of pace, has a better chance, provided that she can maintain her tempo until the end of the contest.

Britons face testing start

From Sydney Friskin in Atlanta

GREAT Britain's hockey teams begin their medal chase this weekend with the women taking on South Korea today and Holland tomorrow, while the men open against South Korea tomorrow.

David Whittle, the men's team manager, said here yesterday that the players were fit and raring to go, committed to earning as many points as possible in what seems to be the tougher of the two groups. Many of the team are sporting short haircuts to cope with the heat and humidity.

A 2-1 victory over India in a training match here on Tuesday, with goals by McGuire and Giles, has given the team added confidence for the match against South Korea. Russell Garcia, who at 18 became the youngest player to win an Olympic gold medal for hockey, remembers the opening match against South Korea in Seoul in 1988. Then, the Koreans came back after conceding two goals to draw 2-2 with Britain, who went on to win gold. Britain's recent record against South Korea has been disappointing, drawing 1-1 in the six nations' tournament here in April and losing 2-0 in Malaysia in May.

Whittle does not underestimate the Koreans having seen their relentless attacking play against Australia in Malaysia where, after a 1-1 draw, they defeated the Australians on penalty strokes after a scoreless final. However, he believes that with the right strategy, Britain could disrupt their rhythm.

Jason Lee arrived here on Wednesday as a replacement for the injured Robert Thompson. Lee is likely to fill a left side attacking position, which opens the door for Daniel Hall at centre forward.

A poor run-up to the Games has not dampened the enthusiasm of Britain's women who still believe they have the potential to win a medal. Half the side that won the bronze medal four years ago in Barcelona are in the squad.

Much will depend on the stability in defence of Karen Brown who has made 132 appearances for Great Britain and 109 for England. Jill Atkins, Brown and Jane Sixsmith played in Seoul. Rhona Simpson, of Scotland, has scored 13 goals since November in 22 appearances and Sixsmith was joint top-scorer with Hentschel, of Germany, in Barcelona with five goals. Nevertheless, it will take a superlative effort to suppress the Koreans today.

In their match tomorrow, Britain will be seeking to avenge their 1-0 defeat by Holland at Milton Keynes.

ATLANTA BRIEFS

Henman's path leads to date with Agassi

TIM HENMAN has avoided an early date with any of the big guns in the Olympic tennis tournament. He plays Shizo Mazuoka, of Japan, in the first round and, should be reach the quarter-finals, is likely to meet Andre Agassi — although the American has a dangerous first-round opponent in Jonas Bjorkman, of Sweden.

Britain's other representative in the men's event, the big-serving Greg Rusedski, takes on Javier Frana, of Argentina, in the opening round. Clare Wood, of Brighton, the only Briton in the women's singles, has a difficult first match against Silvia Farina, from Italy.

☐ Peter Ribe, a world championships bronze medal-winner from Norway, will not compete in the canoeing events after testing positive for the stimulant ephedrine.

☐ China tested each member of its 300-strong team before leaving for the Games. Its athletes continue to live under the shadow of the Asian Games drugs scandal in 1994, when 11 competitors, including seven swimmers, failed drugs tests, and officials are determined to clean up the country's image.

☐ The smallest and newest member of the Olympic movement, the pacific island of Nauru, has a real medal prospect. Its sole representative is the weightlifter, Marcus Stephen, a former Commonwealth gold medal-winner.

Draw helps favourites

From Mike Rosewell, rowing correspondent

THE Olympic Games began well for Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent yesterday. The draw for the rowing events at Lake Lanier — "the best rowing venue that has ever been created," according to David Tanner, the British team manager — has kept the favourites for the coxless pairs' gold medal away from Italy, France and Australia, their closest rivals on present form, in their first race.

It is a good thing, too. The pair, the first Britons to take to the water tomorrow, had planned to miss the opening ceremony until Redgrave — "very pleased and very honoured" — was asked to carry the British flag for the second successive Games. A hard race immediately after that was not what the duo had planned and Redgrave has made the concession of using the carrying pouch in Atlanta that he eschewed in Barcelona.

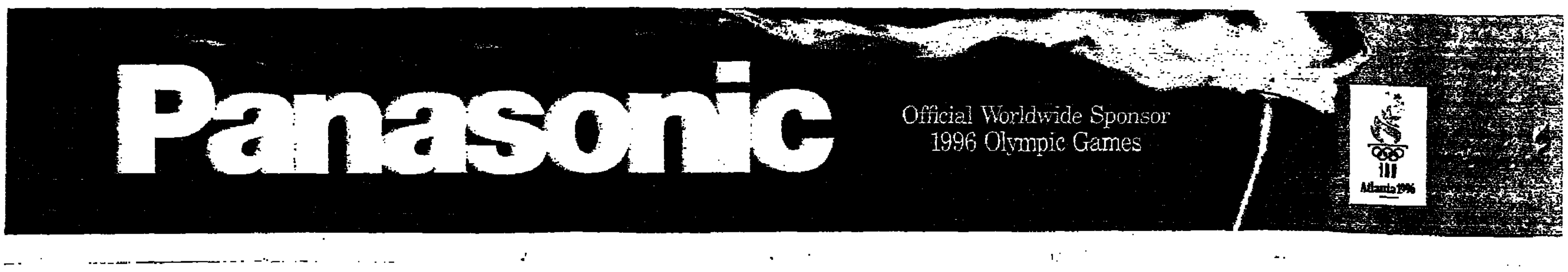
Under a new system of seeding being introduced at these Games, the coxless four was the only other British crew to receive preferential treatment and, in tomorrow's race, they have avoided the Italian world champions and the Australian Olympic champions.

Other British performers have fared less happily. Peter Haining has a nightmare sculls heat that includes both Thomas Lange, the Olympic champion from Germany in 1988 and 1992, and Juri Jaanson, of Estonia, the 1995 World Cup-winner. Guin Batten faces Silke Laumann, the former world champion from Canada, and Trine Hansen, of Denmark, in her sculls heat.

Kate Mackenzie and Philippa Cross, late British qualifiers in the women's pairs, have the French 1993 and 199[illegible] world champions, Christine Gosse and Helene Cortin, in their heat, but could move to the semi-final if they beat either Romania or Russia. The men's double of James Cracknell and Rob Thatcher will challenge the Olympic champions, Davide Tizziano and Agoseini Abbagnale, of Italy.

Four British crews do not start their Olympic quests until Monday, including the up-and-coming British lightweight double of Nick Strange and Andy Sinton, who face a tough heat that includes the fancied Italy and talented Ireland crews.

Perhaps surprisingly, the British team is happy with the heat and humidity. Redgrave's only complaint yesterday was: "It is ruining my suntan and I am cold in the air conditioning."



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Atlanta 1996

OLYMPIC GAMES: AMERICAN BOXERS ARE UPSET AT LOW TELEVISION BILLING AS SWIMMERS STRIVE TO SINK RIVALS IN THE POOL

Boxing stunned by late blow

From John Goodbody

THE LIST of Americans who have won Olympic boxing gold medals and then gone on to become distinguished world champions reads like a roll call of the sport. Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier and Sugar Ray Leonard are just three of the boxers who have become role models for the young.

However, their possible successors are almost being ignored by the American media. Their backgrounds are just too unsavoury.

Antonio Tarver, 27, the light-heavyweight from Florida who is the country's best hope for a title here, was once addicted to crack, a derivative of cocaine. Lawrence Clay-Bey, 30, from Hartford, Connecticut, the team's 17½st super-heavyweight, has been accused of sexual assault. Nate Jones, 23, a heavyweight from Chicago, has served 20 months for armed robbery. David Reid, 22, the light-middleweight from Philadelphia, is accused of assaulting his girlfriend, and the father of Floyd Mayweather, 19, from Grand Rapids, Michigan, is serving time for dealing in cocaine.

The team are upset that NBC, the host broadcaster, is not showing boxing during prime time in mid-evening. the sport will be screened between 12.30 and 2am, instead. This is a change of policy for the American network over what used to occur several Olympics ago.

American attempts to draft Todd Martin into their Olympic tennis squad have been rejected by the International Tennis Federation, forcing Richey Reneberg, the doubles specialist, to fill the gap left by the withdrawal of Pete Sampras, the world No 1, through injury.

Dick Ebersol, the NBC sports president, said: "When we put on boxing we lose up to 70 per cent of the female audience." However, Clay-Bey said: "The network has been reading about this team and decided not to show us."

Tarver added: "I believe it is a shame because of the character of these guys. The way we got here is great and the public should know. We are the last truly amateur sport left in the Games and we symbolise what amateur sport is all about. I think it's unfair to USA boxing that we get shut out like that from prime time NBC sports coverage. To uplift our sport and win back some of those fans that we have lost, including females, is an honourable ambition. Boxing is a beautiful sport."

Tarver claimed the team had been "stereotyped." "It is something that has been going on for some time and this team is trying hard. We have all had our ups and downs," he said.

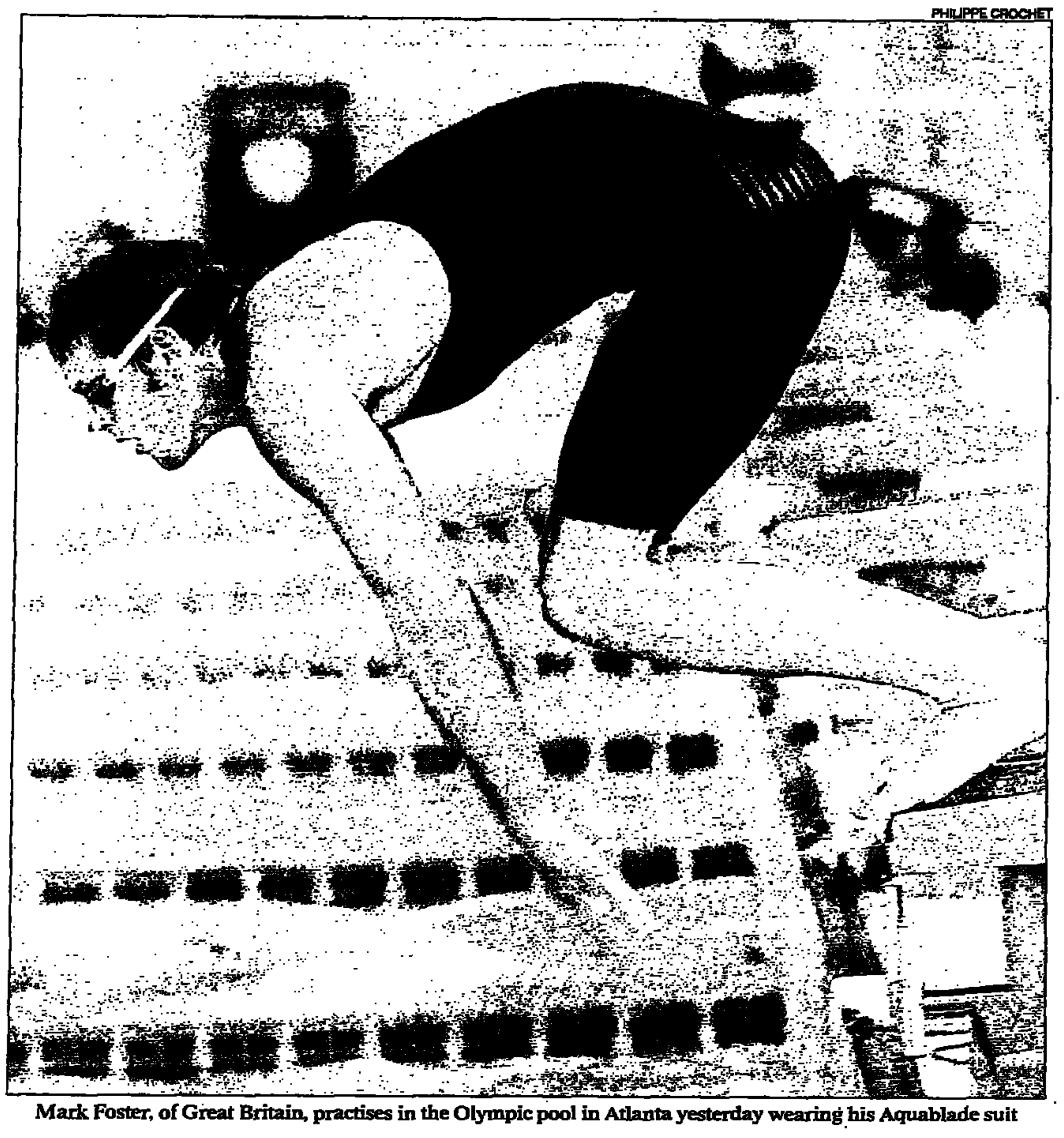
"None of us was born with golden spoons in our mouths. We have always had to work hard against all odds. If you look at all the individual stories, how we came up and what it took to get to this point, I say that we did well. We beat all the odds."

Al Mitchell, the head coach, said: "There should be a lot of positives about these young men. They represent the inner city. Ninety-nine per cent of these guys are from the 'hood' [big city neighbourhoods]. Those are the guys who need role models, you've got a lot of positive stuff here . . . making the Olympics, being an Olympian, beating the problems you have.

"However, I guarantee the ones from the 'hood' have got a lot more grit because they are poor. I come from the 'hood' so I understand it."

US search for cracks in China

From Craig Lord
in Atlanta


PHILIPPE CROCHET

Mark Foster, of Great Britain, practises in the Olympic pool in Atlanta yesterday wearing his Aquablade suit

THE swimming empire of China was not built in a day, it only felt like it in Rome 1994, when all three titles fell to the "new golden flowers" at the opening finals session of the world championships.

First up, as she will be at the Georgia Tech pool in Atlanta today, was Le Jingyi, whose phenomenal 54.01sec world record in the 100 metres freestyle was half a second inside the previous best and 1.19sec faster than it took John Devitt, of Australia, to win the men's title in the same pool, the Stadio del Nuoto, at the 1960 Olympics.

If Le, 21, repeats her achievement today, watch the start and listen to the gasps. This muscular swimmer, the only daughter of a lift-maker's foreman in Shanghai, emerged from her dive half a bodylength up on rivals in Rome and turned at 50 metres a surreal 1.03sec ahead of world record pace and 0.79sec ahead of Franziska van Almsick, of Germany, who was eventually third in 54.77sec, but the rightful owner of the silver medal. Lu Bin, whose 54.15sec remains the second fastest ever, was suspended for steroid abuse within the month, one of 19 Chinese positive tests since 1991.

Le, whose stature prompted an Australian newspaper to run a full front-page picture of the swimmer's back, displaying the might of her wide shoulders in all their glory beneath the headline, "She's Back!", is likely to be challenged only by Shan Ying, 17, her team-mate, who is registered as being almost four inches shorter than the 5ft 11in van Almsick, 18, but looks almost as tall, and is said to be 1½st heavier, at 11st, but looks bigger. Shan beat Le at the Chinese trials.

Those most likely to stop the Chinese pattern of Rome emerging are the Americans. Amy van Dyken, 23, who took up swimming to cure her asthma and postponed her honeymoon to concentrate on the Games, believes "the Chinese swimmers can and will be beaten" and that "we're stronger and faster". Perhaps Angel Martino-Myers, 29, will fit the bill. She returned to the sport in 1991 after a two-year suspension for steroid abuse.

Van Almsick, third in Barcelona when she was 14, will again be a medal contender, while Karen Pickering, 24, seventh behind Le in Rome in a British record of 55.79sec, will attempt to become the first British woman since 1984 to make an Olympic swimming final.

Both women have a better chance of success tomorrow in the 200 metres freestyle, in which the German leads the world and Pickering was world short-course champion in 1993. Claudia Poll, the Costa Rican who claimed the same short-course title in 1995, is among the favourites, but watch for Yan Chen, the 15-year-old newcomer who shares a name with a 17-year-old team-mate who swims backstroke and could cause some of the worst confusion at the Games.

Chen the younger also tops the world rankings for the 400 metres medley. Chen has never been seen outside China so the Olympic final, assuming the likelihood of her making it, will, amazingly, be her first international race. She will face the woman who stopped China's Lin Li at Barcelona, Krizstina Egerszegi, of Hungary.

China will struggle to match the contenders for the 100 metres breaststroke crown tomorrow, the race likely to be all about Samantha Riley, the world champion from Australia, Penny Heyns, the world record holder from South Africa, and Amanda Beard, 14, from Irvine, California.

Tom Dolan, 20, the asthmatic with a congenitally narrow windpipe that on occasion restricts the passage of air to his lungs and has caused him to pass out twice in the water, is likely to be the most popular finalist. The world record holder and champion at 400 metres medley from Virginia, will be challenged by Jani Sievinen, of Finland.

Paul Palmer, 21, of Britain, hopes to make the final of the 200 metres freestyle, though his better event is the 400m later in the week, and team-mate Richard Maden, 23, carries British hopes in the 100 metres breaststroke today. The event has produced two titles for Britain in the last four Games, but a place in the final would be great for Maden.

Three-day event team eager to take up reins

From Jenny MacArthur

A BUOYANT Great Britain three-day event team, led by Ian Stark, on Stanwick Ghost, sets out tomorrow in the Georgia International Horse Park to try to add the Olympic gold medal to its world and European titles.

The four in the team — subject to the first horse inspection this afternoon — are Stark, William Fox-Pitt (Cosmopolitan), Gary Parsonage (Magic Rogue) and Karen Dixon (Too Smart). Looking fit and bronzed after their three weeks' acclimatisation, the four yesterday exuded confidence — and an impatience to get started.

Fifteen teams are competing in the event, in which the horses' ability to cope with the heat and humidity (94F and 85 per cent humidity yesterday) is likely to dictate the outcome.

Several have already suffered setbacks. The most significant of these is the loss of Mark Todd from the New Zealand team after Kayem, his horse, pulled a shoulder muscle at the beginning of the week.

Although New Zealand remain the favourites, the absence of Todd, an individual gold medal-winner in the Games at Los Angeles and Seoul, is a severe blow to morale. A dejected Todd said yesterday that he was hoping to catch the first plane home.

With several other key withdrawals — including Jean Lou Bigot, the former European champion, from the France team and Dorothy Trapp, the world silver medal-winner, from the United States team — Charles Lane, the Britain team manager, is quietly optimistic about his horses. "They have all been working well," he said yesterday. "Their temperatures are taken daily and they have been weighed regularly and none have shown any ill effects."

No team could have a better pathfinder than Stark. He won a team silver in Los Angeles and team and individual silver in Seoul, and is one of the most experienced riders, at 41, in the field. In Stanwick Ghost, a ten-year-old gelding owned by Lady Hartington, on which he was sixth at Badminton, he has a horse to match his talent. As a thoroughbred, he is also expected to cope well in the heat.

It was the selectors' concern over Mary King's King William in the heat that persuaded them to put him in the individual contest — together with Leslie Law, on New Flavour, and Charlotte Bathe, on The Cool Customer — rather than in his usual fourth spot in the team.

"He was bottomed out in the heat at the world championships in The Hague and there is always the chance he may remember that experience," Bridget Parker, the chairman of the selectors, said. If he does not, King will have an excellent chance for an individual medal.

Dixon, who had "psyched" herself up to competing in the individual event, was surprised to hear of her announcement in the team, but soon rallied. "I am quite happy — he is in good form and I know exactly the sort of places where he could make a mistake," she said.

Dixon, a team silver medal-winner in Seoul, is one of the more experienced riders, but Too Smart is capable of the odd mistake, as he showed at Badminton in May. Fox-Pitt and Parsonage both have reliable cross-country horses, although this is Cosmopolitan's first four-star event. He excelled himself at the European championship last September, where he helped to win the team gold medal. Parsonage's Magic Rogue has been clear twice at Badminton and once at Burghley.

The course, despite all the modifications necessary to ensure a safe competition in the heat, is, in the words of Michael Tucker, one of the selectors, "a proper Olympic course".

Although the distances are shorter, the fences themselves are in keeping with a four-star competition. "I'm delighted — it will suit us better," Lane said. The riders have their first course walk today.

EVENT TIMETABLE AND TELEVISION TIMES

All times BST

Today

BASEBALL: Round-robin: Nicaragua v United States (15.00); Australia v Cuba (20 00), Holland v Japan (01.00).

BASKETBALL: Men's preliminary round: Pool A: China v Angola (20.00); Lithuania v Croatia (22.00); United States v Argentina (03 00) Pool B: Australia v South Korea (15.00); Greece v Yugoslavia (17 00), Puerto Rico v Brazil (01 00)

BOXING: First round (bantamweight and welterweight; 18 30 and 01.00).

FENCING: Men's individual epée, preliminaries (15 00) and final stages (20 00)

FOOTBALL: Men's preliminary round: Pool A: Portugal v Tunisia (20 00). United States v Argentina (00 30) Pool B: Spain v Saudi Arabia, France v Australia (23.30)

GYMNASTICS: Men's team compulsories (14 15, 17.30 and 21.30).

HOCKEY: Men's preliminary round: Pool A: Spain v Germany (14 00); Pakistan v United States (22 30); India v Argentina (01 00). Women's round-robin: United States v Holland (14 00); Australia v Spain (16.00); Argentina v Germany (22.30); South Korea v Great Britain (01 00)

SHOOTING: Men: Trap, preliminaries (15 00): 10-metre air pistol, preliminaries (16 30) and final (19 30) Women: 10-metre air rifle, preliminaries (14 00) and final (16 00)

SWIMMING: Heats at 15.05 for evening finals Finals: Men: 100m breaststroke (00 53); 200m freestyle (01.43). Women: 100m freestyle (00.33); 400m individual medley (01 15)

VOLLEYBALL: Women's preliminary round: Pool A: Holland v China (15 00); Japan v South Korea (23.30); United States v Ukraine (00 30). Pool B: Russia v Germany (17 30); Canada v Cuba (21 00); Brazil v Peru (03.00).

WATER POLO: Preliminary round: Pool A: Holland v Yugoslavia (16 00); Hungary v Russia (17 40); Spain v Germany (21 40) Pool B: Croatia v Greece (20.00). Ukraine v Romania (23 20); Italy v United States (03.00).

WEIGHTLIFTING: Under 54kg: Group B (17.30) and group A (final; 21.00).

WRESTLING: Greco-Roman: Under 48kg, under 57kg, under 68kg, under 82kg and under 100kg preliminaries (15.00) and classification (20.30)

JUDO: Men's over 95kg and women's over 72kg, preliminaries (14.30) and finals (20 00).

TELEVISION: BBC1: Olympic Grandstand 10.30am-5.10pm (with Open golf and racing from Newbury) and 8.35-9.30pm, 10 20pm-4.25am. BBC2: Olympic Grandstand 3.05-7.25pm (with Open golf). Eurosport: 24-hour coverage from 6am.

Tomorrow

BASEBALL: Round-robin: Italy v South Korea (20.00); Cuba v Japan (01.00).

BASKETBALL: Women's preliminary round: Pool A: Brazil v Canada (15.00); Japan v Russia (22.00); Italy v China (03 00). Pool B: Zaire v Ukraine (17.00), United States v Cuba (20 00); South Korea v Australia (01.00).

BOXING: First round (light-flyweight and heavyweight: 18.30 and 01.00).

CYCLING: Women's road race (15.00)

EQUESTRIANISM: Three-day event, team dressage (first day; 14.00 and 20 00).

FENCING: Men's individual sabre, preliminaries (16.00) and final stages (22.00): women's individual epée preliminaries (13 00) and final stages (20 00).

SHOOTING: Men: Trap, preliminaries (14.00) and final (19 30). Women: 10-metre air pistol, preliminaries (14.00) and final (17.00)

FOOTBALL: Men's preliminary round: Pool C: Italy v Mexico (19.30); Ghana v South Korea (20 00). Pool D: Brazil v Japan, Hungary v Nigeria (21.00). Women's preliminary round: Pool A: United States v Denmark, China v Sweden (23.30). Pool B: Germany v Japan (22.00); Norway v Brazil (22.30).

GYMNASTICS: Women's team compulsories (14.30 and 20.00).

HOCKEY: Men's preliminary round: Pool B: Holland v Malaysia (14 00); Great Britain v South Korea (22.30); South Africa v Australia (01.00). Women's round-robin: Spain v Germany (22 30); Holland v Great Britain (01.00).

JUDO: Men's under 95kg and women's under 72kg, preliminaries (14.30) and finals (20 00)

ROWING: Men: Heats: Coxless pairs (14 00); double sculls (15.00); coxless fours (16.00); single sculls (17.00). Women: Heats: Coxless pairs (14 30); double sculls (15.30); single sculls (16 30)

SOFTBALL: Round-robin: United States v Puerto Rico (14.00); Canada v Taiwan (16.00); Australia v China (23 30); Japan v Holland (02.00).

SWIMMING: Heats at 15.05 for evening finals Finals: Men: 400m individual medley (00.55); 4 x 200m freestyle relay (01.43). Women: 200m freestyle (00.33); 100m breaststroke (01.21).

VOLLEYBALL: Men's preliminary round: Pool A: Bulgaria v Cuba (23.30); Poland v United States (00.30); Brazil v Argentina (03.00) Pool B: Tunisia v Holland (15.00); South Korea v Italy (17.30); Yugoslavia v Russia (21.00)

WATER POLO: Preliminary round: Pool A: Yugoslavia v Russia (16.00); Germany v Hungary (17.40); Holland v Spain (21.40). Group B: Romania v Croatia (20 00); Italy v Ukraine (23.20); United States v Greece (03.00).

WEIGHTLIFTING: Under 59kg: Group B (17.30) and group A (final; 21 00).

WRESTLING: Greco-Roman: Under 48kg, under 57kg, under 68kg, under 82kg and under 100kg classification (15.00) and finals (20.30).

TELEVISION: BBC1: Olympic Grandstand 9.30am-noon; The Essential Olympics . 7.30-9.10pm, Olympic Grandstand 10.15pm-4.25am. BBC2: Sunday Grandstand 12.30-7.30pm (with Open golf), Olympic Grandstand 9 10-10.15pm. Eurosport: 24-hour coverage from 6am.

SAILING: SCOTTISH SUCCESS REVERSES THE TREND IN SIGMA 33 CLASS

Pender turns the tide against England

By Edward Gorman
Sailing Correspondent

SIMON PENDER, on the Clyde-based *St Joan*, yesterday held on to win the Sigma 33 national championship at Ford Cork Week, finishing tenth in the eighth and last race of the series, well ahead of his nearest rivals, John and Hillary Connelly, on *Phoenix*, who were well down the fleet and eventually retired.

Racing for a second successive day in very light easterlies on a coastal course outside Cork Harbour, the 73-strong fleet got away cleanly after a general recall and was then led around the windward mark by David Wilson on *Vendaval*, with Jeremy Vines, on *Harmony*, second.

On a shortened course, Vines, from Hamble, won the race to the finish and took third place overall with 31.5pts. The Connellys finished with 17.5pts, Pender with 14.5pts.

Pender's has been a remarkably consistent performance, his tally of placings, after two discards, amounting to two firsts, two seconds, a third and a sixth.

This is the second time he has won the championship, having prevailed on his home waters in 1994. He was second at Plymouth in 1992. He was delighted with the performance of his crew, which included his wife, Linda, and the yacht's owner, Ian Nicolson. He said the victory was achieved through a combination of consistency, good boat speed and good starts.

The Sigmas have enjoyed wonderful conditions at Cork where, for the first time in years, English and Scottish boats have competed against each other with the Scots prevailing, taking the top two places. The success of the class has already indicated to the regatta organisers that it ought to return when Ford Cork Week is next staged, in two year's time.

The light winds caused chaos in the regatta's "A Fleet", which is made up of the biggest boats from Classes 0, 1 and 2. In the first race, a traffic jam formed at the first windward mark as three boats stopped dead in the water and the rest piled up behind amid much swearing and collisions.

The overall winner in Class 0 was the Bashford-Howison 41 *Silk 2*, owned by Jocelyn Waller, ahead of two other BH 41s, Colm Barrington's *Surfin' Shoes* and Nigel Bramwell's *Hawk*.

NEWS OF THE WORLD
OLYMPIC CHAMPION BLOWS THE LID ON DRUG CHEATS
Atlanta 1996
ONLY IN TOMORROW'S NEWS OF THE WORLD

CRICKET 40
ENGLAND'S LINE-UP THREATENED BY CHANGING FORTUNES

SPORT

MOTOR CYCLING 41
DOOHAN TAKES HEAD START IN QUEST FOR BRITISH HAT-TRICK

SATURDAY JULY 20 1996

Olympic flame fires global warming

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN ATLANTA

PAUL HENDERSON is a hands-on Toronto plumber. He is also president of the International Yacht Racing Union (IYRU). For the past 18 months he has spent an average five hours of every day, free of charge, attempting to ensure that the IYRU's regatta at Savannah, part of the centennial Olympic Games that begin here today, will be properly organised for the sailors.

The dedication of Henderson, who, as an *international* competitor, crossed swords with rivals such as Dennis Conner and Ted Turner, and understands Olympic *ambitions, is representative of the* thousands who willingly strive to retain historic ethical ideals. The *multi-millions* of Shaquille O'Neal, *the* basketball player, mean nothing to most of the other 10,361 competitors gathered in the Olympic village. Each is here for their private, personal dream.

The *New York Times* yesterday affected not to understand the term "Olympic movement". Frank Deford, a famous but vain interviewer, had tricked Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the *International Olympic Committee*, in a foreign language, English, about the meaning on NBC television. Last night, an estimated two-thirds of the world's population was expected to be watching the Olympic ceremony of a movement that has endured for 100 years. Dick Pound, of Canada, and Kevan Gosper, of Australia, Olympic finalists a generation ago and now executive board members, defined the magic that still touches *the emotions of mankind*.

"It is the ultimate experience," Pound, a swimmer in 1960, said, "and the soul of the movement is *the Olympic village — so many* athletes, from so many countries, at the *summit* of their career. It hasn't changed. They are just better trained. A sporting career is not complete without Olympic participation." Gosper, a track silver medal-winner in 1956, said: "There is nothing bigger, nothing better, nothing more international."

In the last two days, tens of thousands have lined the streets of Atlanta, as they have for three months across America, just for a glimpse of the Olympic torch as it *passes by. Families* have picnicked beside the road. "It was the *experience* of my life," an American photographer, who had run a kilometre-stage, told me.

Samaranch has been inaccurately quoted as suggesting that the Olympic movement was more important than the Catholic religion. What he said was that it has more followers than any single religion. In China and India, more people recognise the Olympic rings than the cross of Christianity.

An Olympic Games marks a city like no other event — forever. There may be crass decisions here by the *organising committee, the Centen*nial Park and the sidewalks may be disfigured by gouging sales opportunists, but Atlanta will be imperceptibly altered for all time by the vision of Billy Payne and human-rights leader Andrew Young, a former Atlanta mayor, whose Christian and social convictions brought the Games home.

Starting today, there will be new heroes, and some old ones, such as Steve Redgrave, trying again. Yet *the Olympics are more about* also-rans than are any other championships, which embrace only the elite. While Carl Lewis remains the legend of 1984, *none have forgotten* Gabriela Anderson-Schiess as she gallantly tottered into the Colosseum at the end of the women's marathon. Nor Derek Redmond, of Britain, as he limped to the line on the shoulder of his father in Barcelona four years ago.

Olympic champions are imperishable. Waiting for yesterday's ceremony, I met Herb McKenley, the 400 metres winner in London in 1948. *His* hero, still, is Emil Zatopek, immortal for his treble of victories in the 5,000 metres, 10,000 metres and marathon. "Every step he took, you thought it was going to be his last" McKenley said. "His willpower was a reflection of the trials of all our *lives. He was, and is,* an inspiration."

Awaiting us these next two weeks are inspirational runners from Kenya, *Ethiopia, Somalia, Burun*di, some as yet unknown, who run with a joy and freedom no commercialism can diminish. Between the world athletics championships of 1987 and those in Gothenburg last year, Kenya has won 34 world and Olympic medals: 17 gold, 11 silver *and eight bronze*.

Andre Agassi's tennis game may be adrift, but his father, Mike, competed for Iran's boxing team in 1948 and 1952, and nothing would keep Agassi Jr from participating. "To me it's a no-brain decision," he said of the choice by Jim Courier and Michael Chang not to compete.

Chris Brasher, the steeplechase champion of 1956, is misguided in his decision to stay away this summer because of the prevalence of drug abuse. Drugs may cloud a few events, yet to capitulate is morally feeble, a contradiction of the hopes to which civilisation must cling. Without perseverance in adversity there would have been no *Crusades, no Reformation, no* Renaissance, no Industrial Revolution. The Games, I believe, will survive in spite of all.

Sadly, the IOC has necessarily taken the unofficial decision that never again will a city such as Atlanta be allowed to host a Games without government guarantees. In its scramble to break even on a $1.7 billion budget — and still needing another $100 *million* from unsold tickets — Atlanta has engaged in unseemly scuffling.

Conversely, the message of some sponsors' commercials is more ethical than sales-insensitive, orientated towards an honourable Games. In one, a small boy enters an empty stadium, in awe. He gets into the *starting blocks. As he* runs 100 metres, he changes by degrees into an adult winning an Olympic medal. As he celebrates, he looks back down *the track, and sees the* tiny figure of his youth. They both smile. The commercial has run 86 seconds before the legend appears: "*McDonald's*. Proud sponsor of dreams coming true."

I write this from a vast main press centre bursting at the seams with sponsors' electronic equipment that informs and simplifies the work of thousands of journalists.

As Pound, the IOC's financial negotiator, said: "You cannot organise a Games at today's level of expectation without the support of sponsors." Every athlete and journalist in Atlanta is a beneficiary of that.

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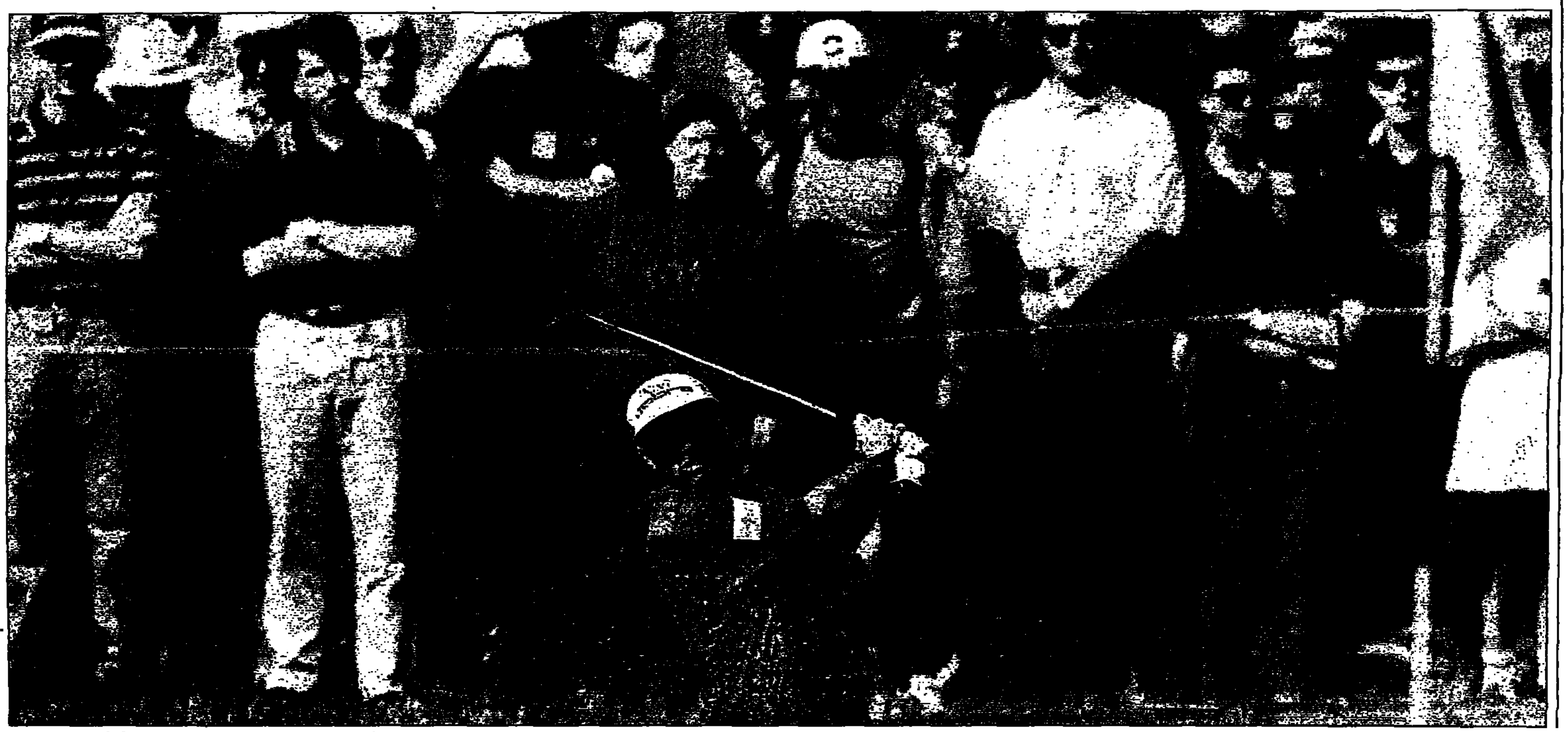
Mum's the word for runner ... 46
Women get to grips 46
Boxing's late blow 47
Backing China's swimmers 47

Irish qualifier storms in to share lead at halfway stage of the Open



McGinley plays out of a bunker during the second round at the Open yesterday, his 65 being good enough to give him a share of the halfway lead with Lehman

Records fall to Gallian

JASON GALLIAN scored a splendid 312, the highest individual score seen at Old Trafford, as cricket records tumbled while Lancashire took control of their match *against Derbyshire*.

Gallian beat the 311 scored by Bobby Simpson in the 1964 Ashes series and also moved *to fourth in Lancashire's* all-time list of top scorers.

After batting throughout the first day to beat his *previous career best of 171, the* 25-year-old opener went on to face 583 balls while hitting 33 fours and four sixes. It was *the first triple century in the* championship since Brian Lara's 501 for Warwickshire against Durham at Edgbaston two years ago and only the tenth since the war.

Gallian gave just one chance, a sharp caught-and-bowled to Kim Barnett on 216, before holing out to Adrian Rollins at long-on 96 runs later.

Lancashire immediately declared on 587 for nine from 189 overs and then Glen Chapple reduced Derbyshire to 35 for two. They were 78 for two at the close and still need another 360 to avoid following on.

County reports, page 40

Nicklaus revives days of yore

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

JACK NICKLAUS lit up the Open scoreboards at Royal Lytham and St Annes yesterday in the way that he used to 25 years ago. In the early 1970s, when the 1.62in golf ball was the standard, it would have been no surprise to see Nicklaus going round in 66 and having a putt to tie for the lead. Indeed, it would have been expected of him. He loved the Open, Britons loved him — it seemed the natural order of things.

Now, though, Nicklaus is 56 *and even he looks mortal. He* has a waistline that he is fighting to control, hair that he is hoping not to lose and a back that he is trying to strengthen. He has acquired the status of an elder statesman because he is an elder statesman. Rounds like this one, which took him to seven under par and one stroke off the lead, are exceptional and to be treasured all the more *because of that*.

Nearly three-quarters of a century after the Open was won at this Lancashire course by Bobby Jones, the greatest amateur in golf, Nicklaus, the greatest professional that the game has known, reminded us of some of the virtues that he has demonstrated so successfully in his long career. He drew spectators out to watch him as in days of yore.

Jones, in 1926, is the only American to win an Open at Lytham, and, as he did it when he was 24, it is expecting a bit *much for* Nicklaus, a man more than twice that age, to go all the way and win, and thus end one of the more unusual *records in golf*.

His second round was vintage Nicklaus, nonetheless. He started with a birdie and should have finished with one, *too; in between, he demon*strated skill and control and that his nerve remains strong.

The last time that Nicklaus had a lower round than this in a major championship was when he won the 1986 Masters. The last Open in which he had consecutive rounds in the sixties was at the 1981 US Open. His last 66 in an Open was back in 1964, and the last time that he scored lower than this in an Open was in 1973, when he had a 65.

Nicklaus, who looked as though he enjoyed every *minute of his round*, later confirmed that this was indeed the case.

"That's why I'm here," he said. "Aren't you supposed to have fun? Don't you enjoy 66s? If that's a form of torture, then torture *me* every day. The people were wonderful, but it's no fun waving to them when you're finishing at noon on Sunday or finishing at noon on Friday and then setting off home. But when you're play*ing well and in contention, hell* that's what you come for. That is what I played 40 years for."

It was a day of high temperatures and low scores, sunny and almost windless. There was magic abroad from the moment that Nicklaus birdied the 1st hole and Paul McGinley had a hole-in-one at the 9th, to the time that Severiano Ballesteros came to the 18th green to rapturous applause.

The second day of the 125th Open was one of those days when you simply did not know *where to look for the next piece* of excitement. Sometimes it came from the antics of a player such as Fred Couples, whose 18 holes comprised one eagle, four birdies, eight pars and five bogeys, and sometimes from the play of McGinley, whose misfortune was to play perhaps the round of his life and lead the Open on the day that Nicklaus roared.

THE OPEN

McGinley's 65 for a 36-hole *total of 134, eight under par*, gave him the outright lead, though several players joined him on that figure at one point or another during their rounds before falling away again and before Tom Lehman birdied the 17th to go to eight under par and stay there.

Peter Hedblom, after a 65, and Ernie Els, after a 67, are like Nicklaus, one stroke behind McGinley and Lehman. *Lurking two strokes behind* are Corey Pavin, who had a 66, Nick Faldo, a 68, Mark McCumber, a 69, and Padraig Harrington, a second successive 68. There are five *major championship* winners within three strokes of the lead.

Among those who missed the cut were Colin Montgomerie (73, 74), Steve Elkington, the US PGA champion (75, 70), Paul Azinger (74, 77), Lee Janzen, the 1993 US Open champion (74, 77), Ian Woosnam (75, 72) and Steve *Jones, the US Open* champion (73, 73). Ballesteros was ten over par; poor Ian Baker-Finch had 78 and 84 to be 20 over.

What do we know of McGinley, an Irishman with coal-black hair and a 1,000-watt smile? One memory is of him competing five years ago in the Walker Cup when, while watching a team-mate, he walked into the middle of the fairway and said, confi*dently*: "I am a player I can walk where I like."

Such confidence, allied to a charming nature, all mark *him out from some of his less*-gifted, taciturn contemporaries.

He had struggled in the wind during the Scottish Open at Carnoustie last week and then had to qualify for this event, but a 66 in his first qualifying round indicated that the rigours of Scotland had inflicted no lasting damage and this view was confirmed yesterday.

Five years ago, McGinley was one of 30 young golfers who attended a seminar conducted by Faldo at Welwyn *Garden City. "Meeting Faldo* took away the aura you have for the top stars." McGinley said. "These guys are very good, but they are not invincible. He had dinner with us, talked to us. He gave us tuition and played golf with us. I came away from there knowing he was an ordinary human being, the same as everyone else.

"I have dreamed of coming *down the last fairway at an* Open, *not* with Nick Faldo but with anyone. Well, I'm going to do that now. I've made the cut for the first time. There is not a lot expected of me. I shall just try and keep focussed. I am really looking forward to the weekend."

Michael Campbell, of New Zealand, who was joint-third in the Open last year, was disqualified yesterday after *signing for wrong scores on* his card. After rounds of 75 and 76, he would have missed the halfway cut anyway.

Faldo in groove, page 42
Couples's encore, page 43

EARLY SECOND-ROUND LEADERBOARD

4 Par
Under par
Over par

Royal Lytham and St Annes: Par 71 (6,892 yards)
Outward nine - 35 (3,330 yards); Inward nine - 36 (3,562 yards)

Total under par	Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	1st rnd	2nd rnd	3rd rnd	4th rnd	Total
	Yards	206	437	457	393	212	490	553	418	164	334	542	198	342	445	463	357	467	414					
	Par	3	4	4	4	3	5	5	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4					
-8	T Lehman	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	5	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	67	67			134
-8	P McGinley	2	4	4	3	3	5	4	3	1	4	5	3	4	3	3	4	3	5	69	65			134
-7	J Nicklaus	2	4	4	4	3	5	4	4	2	3	5	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	66	69			135
-7	P Hedblom	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	3	4	65	70			135
-7	E Els	4	3	4	4	3	5	3	4	3	3	5	3	4	3	5	4	4	3	67	68			135
-6	M McCumber	3	3	4	4	2	4	5	4	3	4	4	2	5	5	4	3	5	5	69	67			136
-6	C Pavin	2	4	5	4	3	4	5	4	2	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	66	70			136
-6	V Singh	3	4	5	3	3	5	4	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	5	3	67	69			136
-6	P Harrington	3	4	4	4	3	4	5	5	2	4	5	2	5	4	4	4	3	3	68	68			136
-6	N Faldo	3	4	4	3	3	5	4	4	3	3	5	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	68	68			136
-6	M O'Meara	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	3	4	5	3	5	4	4	4	4	5	69	67			136

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OFFERS

Take a child to the zoo — free

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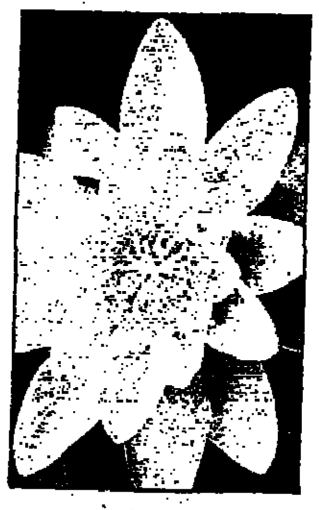

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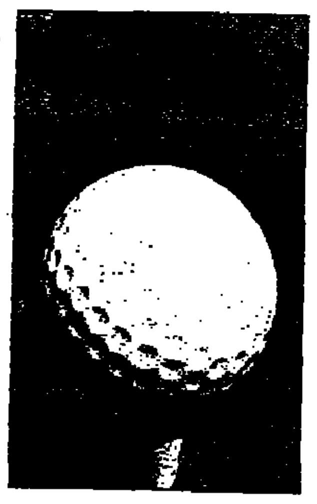

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WEEKEND

THE TIMES SATURDAY JULY 20 1996

JUMBO TALENT TRIUMPHS IN PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Erica Wagner meets the children who took the winning pictures, and hears the judges' verdict

What's it like when a tiger looks you straight in the eyes? Alice Mauder, aged six, says it's pretty frightening, but she was brave enough to capture its fearful symmetry on film, and her photo of the feline taking a cooling dip at Woburn Zoo captured the prize for her age group in *The Times*/ London Zoo photography competition.

The judges had their work cut out. The competition was launched on April 27, and since then more than 1,500 photographs — at least 400 from each age category of five to seven, eight to ten and 11 to 13 — of every kind of beast imaginable have been sent in to *The Times*. The judges — Peter J.S. Olney, director of the Federation of Zoos; Peter Stothard, Editor; and David Driver, head of design — had to choose between lions and leopards, peacocks and pandas, gorillas and geckos. They were impressed by the high standard of photographs, particularly those in the youngest category where they found it nearly impossible to find a winner out of four sharp, interesting pictures — three of them taken by Pierre Hyde, seven (far left), Alice Mauder and James Birch, seven, who are pictured here.

But that shouldn't have been too surprising. Take a trip to any zoo and watch children watching animals. Gazing at a lion lazing in its enclosure, a restless child will become still; watching a pirahna swim in quick, hungry circles around an aquarium tank, a talkative child will become silent — or make a pertinent remark ("Is that a *bone* in there?").

These days most children know what even the most exotic animals look like, now that the wildlife documentary has become a fixture on television. But while watching a televised cheetah bring down an antelope on the African plains is exciting, nothing compares to seeing a cheetah or antelope in the flesh. At a zoo you can be close enough to *really* see an animal, close enough to smell — and make your own observations. And, as young Alice says, sometimes that can be so exciting it's scary.

But Alice, who is in Year One at Woodend Primary School in Harpenden, Hertfordshire, is an old hand at zoos; her great-grandmother gave her a year's membership to Whipsnade Zoo when she was tiny and she has been visiting ever since. Her grandmother, Maren, says that Alice has always been a keen photographer: "She's always borrowing our camera."

Alice's tiger picture was taken with a Nikon Zoom-300. "The tigers were in the pool because it was hot," she says. "There were lots of monkeys, too, and they would bang on the car. But the tiger just sat there looking at me. He was very big." Now Alice won't have to sneak off with her grandmother's camera; she has won her own Fujifilm DL95 — plus a Lifewatch membership to London Zoo.

Katherine Fannon, eight, from Bristol, our winner in the eight to ten-year-old category, will also be able to take a DL95 on future visits

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Cliff Crofts of the Financial Times

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The Lloyd George diet proves it is not a political fire in the belly that makes a great statesman, rather it is what he puts on his plate

Could you stomach a man of jelly?

PAUL HEINEY

HOME MADE

I swear that Lloyd George was never acquainted with any of my family, and certainly not my father. Nevertheless, I can let you in on one of the best-kept secrets of early 20th-century political history by revealing precisely what it was that David Lloyd George enjoyed most of all for his tea.

And what place might this crumb of information have when the history of politics is written? Possibly, it is more significant than historians have hitherto appreciated, and could provide a clue to gaining true political status. My theory, which will be proved when we closely examine Lloyd George's diet, is that it is not a political fire in the belly that makes a great statesman, rather it is what he chooses to put on his plate.

That is why Bill Clinton will slip into the dusty forgotten footnotes of history while Chancellor Kohl will command tomes as weighty as himself. President Clinton, you see, recently revealed his favourite dish which, it appears, consists of bacon, served with chocolate, jam and cream. It is a slimy, confused mixture of flavours and textures and, in the long run, not much good for you. Would you vote for such a man? Enough said. If Bill Clinton had been a buffalo-eating, tin-tack-spitting president we might have believed that the grin on his face was one of confidence, not queasiness in the pit of his cream-filled stomach.

Chancellor Kohl, on the other hand, famously declared before entering into a negotiation: "Let the speeches be short and the sausages be long." That's my boy. Nobody's going to kick sand into his pork-filled face.

At home, things are less certain. We know that John Major's idea of a treat is a wobbly port jelly, from which we might infer any port in a storm, however shaky. I know nothing of what Tony Blair eats, but I deeply suspect him of being a couscous man, with much polenta passing secretly across his dining table, the curtains drawn so that his remaining supporters in the smokestack industries do not spot that the New Labour leader has replaced HP Sauce with pesto. I know even less about Paddy Ashdown's diet but, when asked what he would like for his tea, I suspect he might ask for "neither flesh nor fowl, but good red herring".

David Lloyd George, on the other hand, fed his greatness on traditional Welsh fodder. I know this from a recently published booklet entitled *Lloyd George's Favourite Recipes*, which was originally compiled by the Criccieth Women's Institute, in which village he was a local hero. Blodwen Evans, who lived in Criccieth, worked for his family for 25 years and it is thanks to her revelations that we now know how the great man dined. His favourites included pig's head brawn (always made by Sarah, the housekeeper), potato cake and shortbread, blackberry and apple cheese, cabinet pudding (naturally), steamed Snowdon pudding, grilled herrings and a ground-rice soufflé with caramel sauce ("he adored that"). All this fuelled the furnace of his rhetoric and conviction, and gave us such gems as: "The Right Honorable gentleman has sat so long on the fence that the iron has entered his soul" and, "When they circumcised Herbert Samuel they threw away the wrong bit." And so to his favourite of all, and one which I hope politicians of all parties will consume heartily with a view to raising the debating standards in the next general election.

It is a *cacen gri* (sorry, I don't know how you pronounce it) done in the only manner in which Lloyd George would eat it — cooked by his first wife, Dame Margaret. The recipe book records that "... he would take a long walk in the afternoon ... often coming home soaked to the skin ... After a few moments he would look at Dame Margaret and say, coaxingly: 'Make me a *cacen gri*.' And, of course, she always would."

Feeling statesmanlike already, I went to the larder for the required pound of flour, six ounces of butter, an egg, a few currants, sugar, baking powder and bicarbonate of soda. The measure of bicarbonate of soda is tricky, for the recipe asks for "as much as a sixpenny piece will hold". Try half a teaspoon. You also need some milk.

Rub the butter into the flour quickly (imagine a hungry Lloyd George removing his sodden cape) having added a teaspoon of baking powder and half a teaspoon of bicarb. A generous handful of currants (size dependent on severity of weather) and sugar to taste (ditto). Beat the egg into about half a pint of milk and then beat that mixture into the flour until you have a dough which is stiff enough to roll out into a thin sheet. It is best baked on a greased griddle, but there is nothing better than a little oil rubbed across the cool plate of an Aga. Try a really heavy-bottomed frying pan if not.

The result is a large, speckled, golden bread, halfway between a thick pancake and flat scone. It takes butter when hot like a politician soaks up flattery, but becomes sad when cold.

It will now be a firm favourite in this family. Lloyd George knew what good grub was, and good grub certainly knew Lloyd George.

● Lloyd George's Favourite Recipes *can be obtained from John Jones Publishing, Borthwen, Wrexham Road, Ruthin, Clwyd LL15 1DA (01824 707255).*

Set the stage for an interval dinner

THEATRE PICNIC
Serves four

Roasted vegetable and tapenade rolls
Goats' cheese and roasted fennel rolls
Double-chocolate brownies

Mid-week trips to the theatre pose the problem of how you follow the play when your mind and ears are occupied by a rumbling tummy. This theatre picnic can be taken to work and eaten before the play or in the interval.

■ The night before
Pre-heat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas mark 4.

■ Prepare roasted vegetables
Cut two red peppers in half and de-seed. Cut the leaves and thin stalks off a bulb of fennel and cut it downwards into four thick slices. Cut one large beefsteak tomato (or three medium tomatoes) into thick slices. Peel four shallots. Put all the vegetables in a roasting tin. Season with a salt and pepper and pour over 2tbs olive oil.

■ Make brownies
Put 140g (5oz) plain flour, 225g (8oz) caster sugar, 2tbs cocoa powder, 100g (4oz) plain chocolate (broken into pieces) and a pinch of baking powder in a food processor bowl. Whizz until the chocolate is broken into chips. Add 100g (4oz) butter, two eggs, 1tsp vanilla essence and 80g (3oz) walnuts or pecan nuts. Whizz until you get a sticky dough. Put into a greased baking tin so the mixture is 2-3cm high.

■ Cook the brownies and vegetables
Put the brownies and the vegetables in the pre-heated oven and bake for 40 minutes. Take out the vegetables. When they are cool, take the skin off the red peppers. To check if the brownies are cooked, stick a knife into the mixture and see if it comes away cleanly (bearing in mind that they are going to be slightly sticky in the middle). When they have cooled a little, turn the brownies and cool on a wire rack.

■ Before work
Cut four white and four brown rolls in half. Trickle a little olive oil on the bread. Fill the brown rolls with a piece of roasted fennel and a slice of goats' cheese. Season with pepper. Spread the bottom of the white rolls with a scraping of tapenade or black olive paste. Fill each roll with half a roasted red pepper, one shallot (cut in half), a slice or two of tomato and a roughly torn basil leaf.

■ Pack up picnic
Put the rolls into four sandwich bags, one brown and one white roll in each. Cut the brownies into pieces and put four pieces in a plastic bag. Put the rest in an airtight container and serve with ice-cream as a pudding (or eat them during the day whenever you need a sugar rush).

■ Serving
I have never had any trouble with my picnics, but I imagine theatre managements generally prefer you to eat ice-cream or sandwiches, so find a discreet spot (and not in the auditorium). I occasionally take a bottle of wine to the theatre, which means you avoid the crush at the bar.

HATTIE ELLIS

Shopping list

Fruit and vegetables:
2 red peppers
1 bulb fennel
1 beefsteak or 3 medium tomatoes
4 shallots
4 basil leaves

Dairy
100g (4oz) butter
200g (7oz) goats' cheese

Savoury goods
4 brown rolls
4 white rolls
olive oil
140g (5oz) plain white flour
2 eggs
pinch baking powder
1tsp tapenade/black olive paste

Sweet goods
225g (8oz) caster sugar
2tbs cocoa powder
100g (4oz) plain chocolate
1tsp vanilla essence
80g (3oz) walnuts or pecan nuts

Drink
1 bottle white wine or drinks from the theatre bar

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RONALD GRANT/MONTAGE

Despite new fillings, sales of quiche have remained static since the 1970s when it was claimed that you wouldn't catch real men eating it

Manly flan

RUMMAGING through a second-hand bookshop the other day, I came across a dog-eared copy of *Real Men Don't Eat Quiche*, a book which dealt quiche a body-blow from which the savoury has never fully recovered. The theory, for those of you too young to remember, was that men needed to reassert their masculinity after being ground down by nappy changing, washing their own socks and having to discuss their feelings. And part of that was rejecting "women's" food like muesli, salads and quiche.

Curiously it is quiche that has borne the brunt of this opprobrium. While salads go from strength to strength, buoyed by such innovations as the layered salad and packs of exotic leaves, quiche plods on with the same fillings as ten years ago — quiche lorraine, cheese and onion or, for the adventurous, cheese and broccoli. A Tesco spokesman told me they've tried to make it sexier but new flavours like pecorino cheese and basil have bombed. "Now we just concentrate on improving the quality of the filling and the crust."

Obviously, men robust enough to continue eating quiche despite the onslaught on their masculinity don't want it mucked about with. Marks & Spencer — which has just released a manly ham, cheese and pickle quiche — reveals that its main sales are up North where, a closet quiche-eater tells me, women don't make the mistake of serving it by the slice. It's obviously not that Real Men don't like quiche, they just want the whole thing to themselves. Preferably with chips.

Cool gruel

ANOTHER thing that Real Men are supposed to detest is soup — particularly cold — but some of them must be sneakily eating it as the increase in the fresh soup market from about £2 million in 1990 to £36 million last year can't solely be accounted for by women. According to Caroline Jeremy, marketing director of the New Covent Garden Soup Company, there has been a sea-change in the past three years. "A number of our soups are designed to be served cold but we knew people were secretly heating them up because they'd write to us and complain they were too thin. But a couple of hot summers seems to have made people willing to experiment more."

FIONA BECKETT

DIGEST

Men are perfectly prepared to eat soup, Ms Jeremy tells me, as long as they're not too smooth and bland (the soups, that is, not the chaps). The company has had great success with its gazpacho (though I'd personally be inclined to add a spot more garlic). The lemongrass and coriander is also good. Both are widely available for £1.09.

Game preserve

SO BLASÉ are we these days about being able to get ingredients from all over the globe that it's rare to find something genuinely new and exotic. But the Old Cape Farm Stall range of jams and pickles from South Africa is exactly that.

What makes them so different is not only that many of the fruit and vegetables they use are unfamiliar but that they use whole fruit which gives the jams a wonderfully chunky texture. They also resist the temptation to overdo the sugar so you get the benefit of the pure-fruit flavour. Among the ones I've tasted I particularly liked the kumquat preserve which tastes like the best kind of homemade bitter orange marmalade, the Cape gooseberry jam, and the guava jam, which is so delicious you could eat it by the spoonful (which I'm ashamed to say I did). And the End of the Garden pickle, which contains great chunks of cabbage, beans and green tomatoes, knocks spots off any shop-bought piccalilli.

The snag (there has, of course, to be one) is that they're expensive at £4.50 for a 450g jar or £2.30 for 150g, which won't last you a minute but does at least give you a chance to decide which flavour you like best. You can buy them from Fortnum & Mason in London from the end of this month or ring 0171-381 9471 for details of other stockists and mail order.

Glory days

IT'S RARE these days to see that great 1950s classic the knickerbocker glory, so news that it was featuring on a new afternoon tea menu at Simpson's sent me off hotfoot to the Strand in central London. Only when it was served up did I realise that I had no way of knowing if the frothy cream and fruit concoction was authentic or not. Although knickerbocker glory was part of the mythology of my childhood, I never actually sampled one.

The whole Simpson's experience was in fact slightly surreal, although the staff were young and relentlessly chirpy. As each course of the Bunteresque menu appeared, the waitress said: "Once more into the breach then?"

In fact, it's possible that the staff in the kitchen were all jobbing actors, which might explain one or two eccentricities on the menu like the crumpets being served unbuttered and the doorstep cucumber sandwiches.

On the other hand, the Welsh rarebit, bread pudding and eclairs were hard to fault and the "servants' tea" was the best cuppa I'd had in ages.

If you want to go somewhere where no one knows the meaning of low-fat cuisine, tea is served from 3pm to 5pm, Monday to Saturday, and costs £10.50 (the rarebit and knickerbocker glory are, alas, extra). Ring 0171-836 9112.

Size matters

IF YOU are a knickerbocker glory fan, you may well like the sound of Fatty Towers in Margate, a hotel owned by 24-stone pop star Buster Bloodvessel, the lead singer of Bad Manners. Mr Bloodvessel, as he likes to be known, was fed up with the namby-pamby helpings offered by most restaurants and hotel dining rooms and is offering a menu of gargantuan proportions. Specials include Cardiac Arrest (a giant toad-in-the-hole containing four 8oz sausages), Buster's Battered Fish and Chips (16oz of salmon fillet in batter) and UXB Kiev (20oz of chicken breast stuffed with garlic butter).

Surprisingly, the enterprise is not going too well. "People think they can only come here if they're fat," says Mr Bloodvessel. If you're prepared to brave it, dinner is served from Thursday to Sunday, with lunch on weekends. Book on 01843 296200.

More food and drink in *the Magazine*
Le Creuset offer, page 11

Chocolate Box

WHY BUY "ethical chocolate"? Well, let's just say that some chocolate is produced in ways that reward the growers of the cocoa beans fairly for their efforts, while other chocolate manufacturers seem uncaring about the welfare of the labourers.

The price of cocoa beans has actually gone down in recent years, and crops are not reliable. Cocoa can be grown only in tropical areas and is labour-intensive. Large manufacturers can — and do — control the prices they pay, and have been known to renege on agreements, leaving growers in dire straits.

Organisations such as Traidcraft, set up in 1979, and Green & Black's, part of Whole Earth Foods, pledge to deal fairly with producers, guaranteeing prices and paying in advance, as well as insisting on organic cultivation. There are no pesticides, such as those believed to have produced birth deformities among women cocoa workers in some Brazilian plantations, and the beans are grown alongside subsistence crops beneath the canopy of the rainforests, not in cleared areas. The chocolate itself is produced in Europe, in small factories in Switzerland, France or England.

Of the plain chocolate brands I tasted last week, Green & Black's Maya Gold and Organic Dark (both with 70 per cent cocoa solids) stood out, although Fairtrade's Mascao Plain (60 per cent) was not far behind. These are rich, dark chocolates, not as bitter as, say, the equivalent Lindt or Nestlé and, in the case of the Maya Gold, flavoured with spices and orange. Green & Black's Organic Mint (70 per cent), also dark, has a terrific mint filling.

Of the milk chocolates, Green & Black's (34 per cent) and Mascao (32 per cent) were preferred to Traidcraft's Compañero bars (32 per cent), flavoured with honey or mocha, or the Mascao with nuts or orange. All seemed very sweet after the plain chocolate, but the sugar is also produced "ethically".

TONY PATRICK

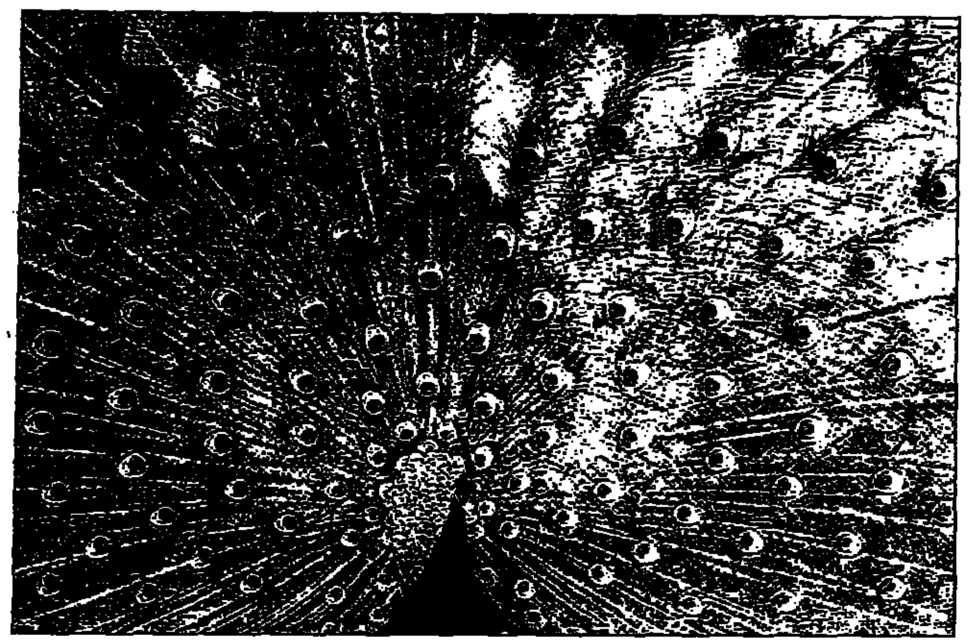
● *Stockists: Green & Black's can be found in major supermarkets and health-food shops. £1.35-£1.85 for 100g, 39p for 20g. Contact PO Box 1937, London W11 1ZU (0171-243 0562) for more information and a recipe leaflet.*
● *Fairtrade's Mascao bars are £1.30-£1.50 for 100g, and Compañero 65p for 50g. They can be found in charity shops and many independent retailers, but not in supermarkets. Contact Traidcraft, Kingsway North, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE11 0NE (0191-491 0591).*

INSIDE STORY

Trunk call: by runner-up Mandy Elizabeth Jones, aged six, of Wrexham, Clwyd

Cool cat: a winning shot taken by Alice Mauder, aged six, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire. "Seeing the tiger was exciting, but scary, too," she says

NEWS TEAM



The eyes have it: Alex Ballantine, 13, of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, and (above) the winning picture he took of a peacock's display

'Zoos are no longer places just to go and gawp; now they work hard to help conserve animals'

Continued from page 1

to the zoo: the judges were delighted by the remarkable quality of her photograph of an elephant with its trunk artfully curled.

Alex Ballantine, 13, of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, the winner of our 11-13 category, sent in a picture in which the the marvellous arc of feathers displayed by a peacock completely filled the print. It was taken, with his grandmother's Nikon (clearly grandmothers play a vital role in the careers of budding photgraphers), at the Cotswolds Wildlife Park, near Burford, Oxfordshire, where the peacocks roam freely in the grounds.

"We heard the peacocks calling for a while," says Alex, who has been a keen photographer since a visit with his school to Blenheim Palace in 1993, "and then one just came out and was literally standing next to us."

Alex wins a Fuji DL-270 Zoom camera.

What makes a good animal photograph? When we launched the competition, Ray Charter, keeper in charge of the lion terraces at London Zoo, and a photographer himself — it is his work that often appears on the zoo's postcards and posters — advised prospective photographers to look for something different: an unusual angle or a close-up.

Michael Lyster, the zoo's official photgrapher, suggested a visit at feeding time.

Andrew Lawrence, 13, whose close-up shot of an elephant's eye was a runner-up, was experimenting with an old manual camera when he took the shot. He admits that it was lucky: "I was probably trying to take a better shot from a distance and lost focus," he says.

Another of our young runners-up, Mandy Elizabeth Jones, six, who lives with her parents Beverly and David at Wrexham, Clwyd, caught an elephant at Chester Zoo reaching for a snack of grass (see picture top left).

She had been paying close attention to the elephants, because of all the animals they are her favourites. She had tried to get a picture of Chester's new baby elephant but wasn't tall enough to see anything but the bars of the enclosure. She got over that by sitting on her father's shoulders.

It wasn't only *The Times* judges who were impressed with the quality of the pictures. So, too, was the Children's Committee of London Zoo, a 16-strong group of children aged eight to 14, chosen each year in a national competition. Since the project started three years ago, the committee, which visits the zoo five or six times a year, has given its counsel on a wide variety of the zoo's campaigns, including the design of the new children's zoo and the zoo's advertising promotions. It has also helped to carry out questionnaires on such topics as animal "adoption" (If John Major were to adopt an animal, said one question, what should it be? A grey mullet was a common answer).

The committee visited *The Times* and offered its opinions of what made the strongest animal pictures. "They should have a really funny expression on their faces," said Toby Hyde, 11, who liked Dominic Cook's photograph of a madly grinning llama. "The animals should also be doing what they're doing in the wild."

Sarah Hamilton, 11, agreed, pointing to Emma Rosenfeld's picture of a giraffe, its head appearing crowned with a ring of leaves. "You couldn't tell that was in a zoo," she said.

To David Driver, and to all our judges, that was an important point: "The main problem in taking zoo pictures is the zoo context. In the wild there are no bars, pits or islands of confinement, though in the wild or on safari you can't get as close to the animals."

One of the reasons he liked Mandy's elephant photo was the good use it made of the zoo environment. "It couldn't have been anywhere but in a zoo," he says, "but the way the elephant was behaving made it special."

The same could be said for James Birch's picture of a peckish orangutan taken at Chester Zoo (see below). James, seven, a pupil at Cassiobury Infants School at Watford, Hertfordshire, took his picture with an Olympus NJU. "There was a sign saying don't give food to the orangutan," he says. "But it wanted food so it put its hand out. We were eating ice-creams, but we didn't give it any."

Ian Redmond, a wildlife biologist, photographer and author of two Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness guides, *Elephants* and *Gorilla*, believes that children have much to gain from practising their photographic skills at a zoo. "With a still photograph you have a chance to look at something without the distraction of movement. My own children take pictures at the zoo, and they'll be able to point out on the picture whatever aspect of the animal's behaviour that interested them, even on a poor quality photograph." Photographs from a zoo visit, he adds, reinforce the experience many times over.

It may seem strange that the winning photographs in a zoo photography competition should, in the main, look as if they could have been taken in the wild. Attitudes to zoos remain divided, despite their transformation from menageries to centres of conservation. Pierre Hyde, seven, from Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, whose sleeping leopard, photographed at Marwell Zoo, was another strong contender, loves zoos, but admits that he does "feel a bit sorry for the animals when they are in cages".

Sadly, there is less and less land for wild animals to roam in. Colin Tudge, a zoologist and author of *The Day Before Yesterday* and *The Last Animals at the Zoo*, says that maintaining a viable population of tigers in the wild requires an area the size of Yorkshire — and it seems that Asia, where the tigers live, cannot spare that kind of space. So zoos and safari parks not only give children practically their only chance to have a "close encounter" with wild animals, they may well provide the only future for the animals themselves, protecting them from the encroaching human population and the dangers of hunters and poachers. (Last week 11 Barbary lions, believed extinct since the 1920s, were "rediscovered" at a zoo in Ethiopia).

Peter Olney says that children are the conservationists of the future. "Zoos are like enormous reserves, where animals are ambassadors for their relatives in the wild. They're no longer places just to go and gawp; now they do important conservation work. That's what we want all zoo visitors to realise, but children particularly."

David Driver noted one quality that stood out in all the pictures: "An affection for animals ... all the photographs showed their warm, appealing aspects."

It is this love of animals that will keep children — and the adults they will become — caring for the zoos of the present and future and supporting them in their work. Even if that means staring down the occasional tiger.

- *Additional research by Caroline Griffiths.*
- *All those who entered the competition will receive their Fujicolour Quicksnap camera within 14 days.*

Zoo offer, page 18

Cover picture by MARK HARRISON
shows Pierre Hyde (far left), Alice Mauder and James Birch

THE SECRETS OF TAKING A WINNING PICTURE

Above: the curling trunk made Katherine Fannon, of Bristol, a winner. Right: the begging orangutan by James Birch

THE MOST striking thing about the photographs entered in our competition is the high quality of exposure and definition. This is possible through the new generation of fully automatic cameras, where film choice, exposure and often focusing can be left to the camera. This automation leaves the photographer free to be as creative in choice of subject and composition as the imagination will allow.

Zoos and safari parks offer photographers wonderful opportunities to observe animals, and many of our young entrants have shown patience in capturing the right moment to press the button. What sets apart a competent picture from a very good picture can be simplified to three golden rules:

■ REMEMBER that a camera is an extension of your eyes. What you see in the viewfinder is what you will see on the print. Before you press the shutter button be sure you that have composed the picture to its best advantage.

■ TAKE lots of pictures. Have a spare roll of film handy. Always be aware of when your last frame is coming up, because there is always a better picture just around the corner — and it is often missed because you have reached the end of your roll.

■ DO NOT be afraid to ask your subject to move into a different position. Always be prepared to change *your* position in relation to the subject, be it a landscape, a group of people or an animal. You may get a better angle by moving closer, above, or below. And take advantage of the light.

GRAHAM WOOD

- *The author is a photographer and picture editor of* The Times *Magazine.*

OPEN LETTER TO A **CARING COMMUNITY**

There seems to be so much unavoidable suffering in the world. We appeal for your support to reduce avoidable suffering.

We aim to raise funds to advance scientific research into pre-natal and post-natal experience. This research is needed to identify areas of harm or benefit to unborn and premature babies, including above all the question of pain and its alleviation.

This information becomes increasingly relevant as medical ability to operate advances. Invasive surgical techniques in the womb including termination (20,000 fetuses are terminated annually in the UK after 13 weeks), life saving shunt insertions (where fluid is drained from the baby), blood transfusions, keyhole surgery (where the baby is operated on whilst still in the womb) and routine tests such as amniocentesis are all currently performed with no pain relief for the pre-born.

It was discovered ten years ago that premature babies who need surgery also need anaesthetics. The survival rate was found to increase dramatically when deep anaesthesia was administered. Further research is now needed to enable doctors to provide improved control of suffering.

The right to ban cruelty to animals is being established. This right should apply equally to avoidable human suffering. A recent report by a research specialist in the Lancet adds to the evidence of pre-natal distress and recommends anaesthetics to minimise it.

All can unite with our appeal for the new-born and pre-born to be protected from pain. But research is needed to determine HOW pain relief can be provided. We aim to raise funds for the few research centres working to achieve this.

We also call for increased research into pre-natal influences and their long term consequences. This is urgently required. More information is needed on measures which help to build healthy babies. Research is equally needed to identify influences in the pre-natal environment which may cause illness later on in life.

Will you support our work for these and other priorities which will ensure Women and Children's welfare?

A public fund-raising appeal has been launched. It is endorsed by community leaders. The following are already Co-Concerned:

Jane Asher, Joan Belcher, Floella Benjamin, Charlotte Black, Dr A Booth, Dr B J Collett, Shirley Conran, Margaret Cooper OBE, The Baroness Cox, Tessa Dahl, Audrey Eyton, The Baroness Flather, Dr A W Frankland, Lynne Franks, Joyce Hopkirk, Barbara Hosking OBE, Joanna Lumley, June Mendoza, Revd. Canon W B Norman, Sara Parkin, Betty Parsons MBE, Dr J Paterson Brown CBE, Sir John Peel KCVO FRCOG, Sybil Phoenix MBE, Sir George Pinker KCVO FRCOG, Rosalind Preston OBE, Carol Reay, Jennifer Saunders, Patricia Scotland QC, Countess of St Andrews, The Very Rev. Prof. T Torrance FRSE, Dorothy Tutin CBE.

Women and Children's Welfare Fund Trustees: Hugh van Cutsem, Lady Lothian, The Earl of Perth, The Marchioness of Salisbury.

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Signed ______________________________

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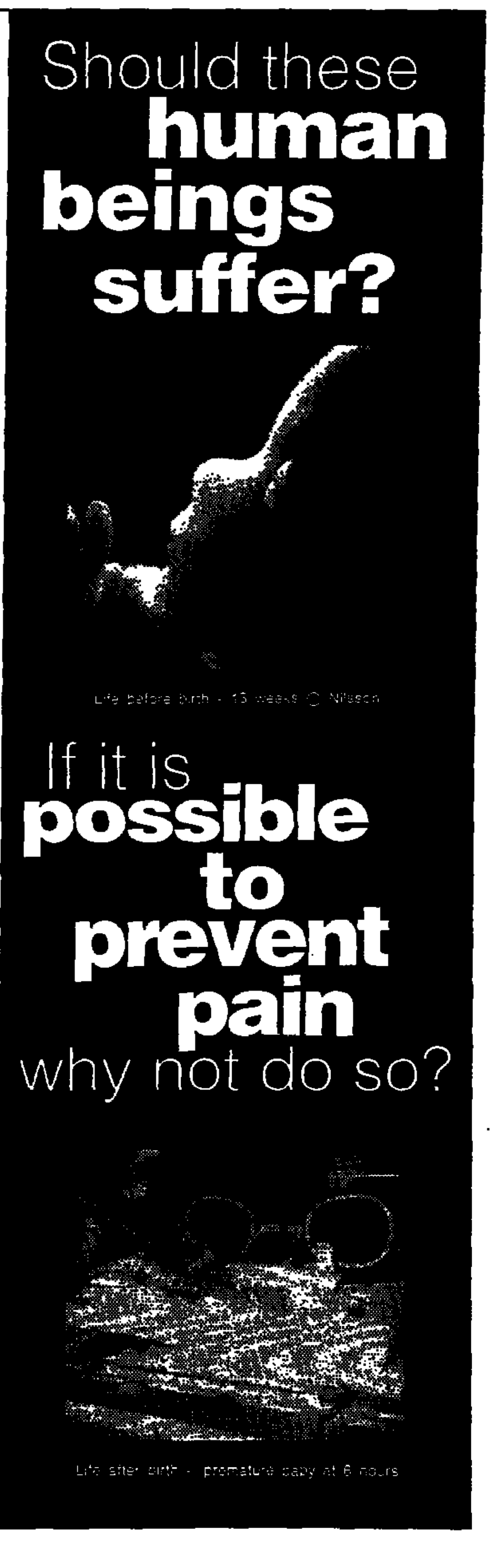

Should these
human
beings
suffer?
Life before birth - 15 weeks © Nilsson
If it is
possible
to
prevent
pain
why not do so?
Life after birth - premature baby at 6 hours

Tribute to a nation's flora

Work has begun on the only new botanic garden in Britain this century

The opening date for the new National Botanic Garden for Wales is May 26, 2000. The reason for such long-range confidence is a £21 million grant from *the Millennium fund announced* earlier this year.

Before that, a small band of dedicated volunteers had put six years' unpaid work into planning and preparation. "It astonished me that the project remained alive through the recession of the early Nineties," says William Wilkins, the acting project director.

The national showpiece will double as a visitor attraction and centre of scientific research. It will be the first large-scale botanic garden to be built *in Britain* this century and will concentrate on preserving the endangered flora of Wales and the European seaboard.

Its home will be the 560-acre site of Middleton Hall Estate, a property once owned by Sir William Paxton, *former master of the* Calcutta Mint and agent for the East India Company. A property developer and man of vision, Paxton was responsible for many innovative projects, including the creation of Tenby as a seaside spa, and the supplying of running *water to Carmarthen town*, seven miles to the west.

His vision for Middleton was of a distinguished garden in the late 18th-century manner, through which water would run as a natural thread. Its design is believed to have been the work of *William Emes (1730-1803) an* admirer of Capability Brown.

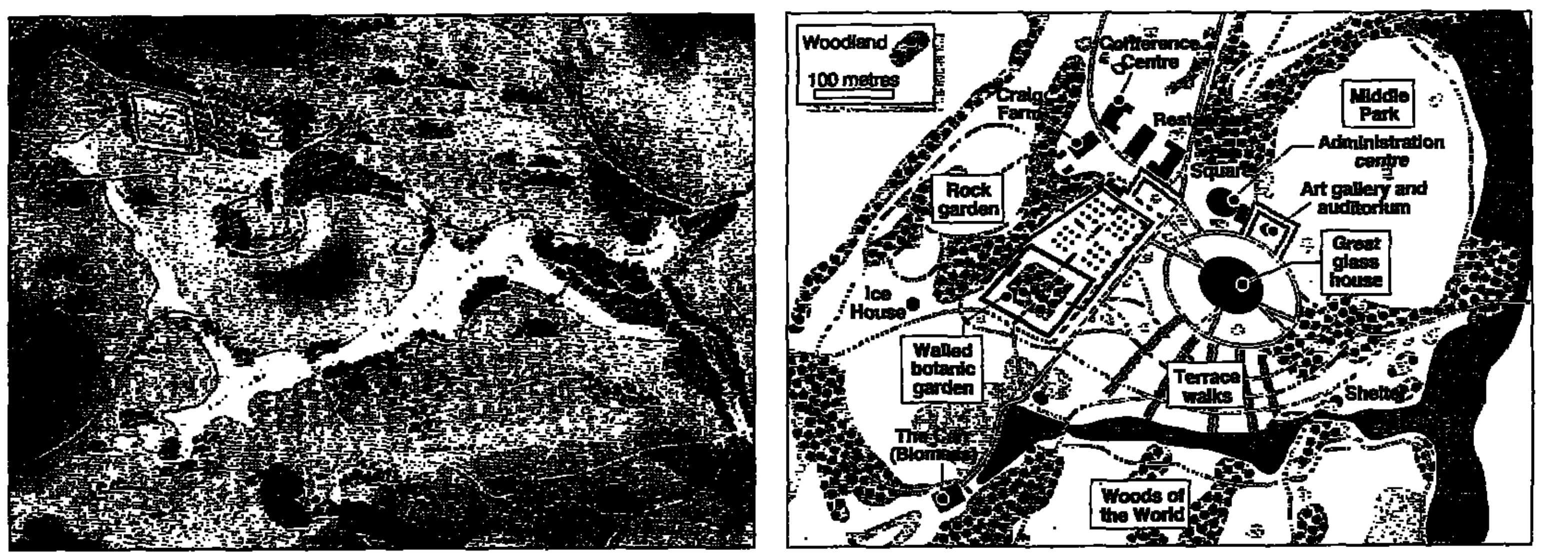
Built in 1776, the original hall was said to have been the finest modern house in the south of Wales. This burnt down in 1931 and the park was dismembered into numerous smallholdings. Fortunately, the recent discovery of two watercolours of Middleton by Thomas Hornor means that planners have an accurate impression of how the gardens looked in their heyday.

An artist's impression of the inside of the domed glasshouse planned for the National Botanic Garden for Wales at Middleton Hall, Carmarthenshire

According to Mr Wilkins, a professional painter with a lifelong interest in landscape, two thrilling features that set this place apart are its fine aesthetic statement about the relationship between man and nature based on 18th-century thinking, and the central role of water in the site.

Six lakes at different levels were linked by cascades and falls. No artifice was spared to ensure an entirely natural effect. The bed of the *river beneath one particularly beautiful* bridge, for instance, was paved to provide a smooth flow of water that ensured onlookers a perfect reflection of the arch above.

In addition to its lakes, Middleton Hall boasted rock gardens, orchards and a unique, five-acre double-walled garden in which, according to one visiting botanist, you could grow anything. Many varietes of plants that have been bred in Wales at Xlyne, Bodnant and Powis Castle will be brought together here, Mr Wilkins says. These include magnolias and many rhododendrons developed by Lord Aberconway, *Viburnum bodnantense, artemisia* 'Powis Castle' *and Cupressus leylandii.*



The original Middleton Hall estate as envisaged by Sir William Paxton and (right) *how Wales's national garden will look when it opens in 2000*

Five of the original lakes are now no more than reedy hollows in the landscape but many natural features, including indigenous woodlands, *banks of bluebells, numerous ferns,* mosses and fungi, survive.

Standing on the elevated site of the manor drawing room, Mr Wilkins indicated the main outline of the new project. At the heart of the complex will be a domed glasshouse, designed by Sir Norman Foster and Partners, which will accommodate five different climate and soil zones. Descending from the glasshouse to an upper lake will be a series of terraces intersected by five waterfalls and on the hillside opposite an arboretum, to be called "Woods of the World", will contain complete woodland habitats *of four continents.*

Two novelties that would doubtless have appealed to Paxton, the innovator, will be the bioscope, a state-of-the-art audiovisual introduction to the garden and botany, and the bioverse, a hands-on science centre for children and adults.

During its construction the garden will provide work for 244, and 120 permanent jobs will be created. Parts of Middleton could be opened as early as May 1998.

Despite its apparently remote location the estate is within 300 yards of the busy M4, although a substantial *hill shields it from the sight and* sound of traffic.

The Middleton Hall project, which has the backing of the local authorities, the Welsh Development Agency and the Wales Tourist Board, should prove a focal point for visitors to the area, particularly keen gardeners.

"We are going to trigger a renaissance of interest in all the gardens of Wales," Mr Wilkins says.

ALAN ROAD

- *Middleton Botanic Garden, Carreg Cennen, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6TL (01558 668768).*
- *Leading botanic gardens: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, west London (0181-332 5000); Belfast Botanic Gardens (01232 324902); Cambridge University Botanic Gardens (01223 336265); Edinburgh Botanic Gardens (0131 522171); University Botanic Gardens, Oxford (01865 242737).*

GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q For the past three years my mature pear tree has been affected by maggots. To minimise the spread I have picked *from* the tree about 1,500 deformed fruitlets and collected more from the soil. There are now only two or three dozen left unaffected on the tree. What should I do to prevent *repetition?* Before this the tree was laden with excellent fruits. — L. Clajkowski, Stanmore, Middlesex.

A Your problem is a gall midge, specific to pears, which lays its eggs in the flowers during March or April. Dozens of minute, white larvae develop in the distorted fruitlets, which blacken and fall, usually in *May or June. When the* fruits fall, the mature larvae crawl into the soil where they remain until emerging as adult midges the following spring. Treatment is to collect and burn all affected *fruits. Cultivate the soil* lightly beneath the tree and treat it with an insecticidal dust, such as HCH, in spring. The spraying of a large tree with insecticide, just as the buds are about to burst, is possible but not easy. Early or late-flowering pears manage better to evade the midge's unwanted attentions.

Q Can you please identify the enclosed leaf and flower of a perennial which grows 4ft-5ft high? — G.A. *Hanson*, Wigan, Lancashire.

A I wish I could, but by the time the leaf got to me it was a streak of brown mush. Please try again. The best way to send a sample through the post is as dry as possible and sealed in a clean plastic bag. Mark the envelope "plant material — URGENT". I hope next time I can help.

Q We wish to plant two or three rhododendrons to hide a compost heap. Ideally we would like a *clump* 5ft-7ft high and 15ft across when fully grown. Our soil is clay and the shrubs would be in the shade from a large ash tree. Early flowering would be preferred.— Mrs *P. Rudling, Stafford.*

A The earliest rhododendrons are species not *so easy to grow in* impoverished conditions. The easier hybrids flower from May through June. Is that early enough? Acid or neutral clay is acceptable if you build up a foot of good, *open-textured soil above the* clay and plant into that. I would plant three 'Cunningham's White', an old variety with a pinkish bud, which starts off the hybrid season in early May. In old age *it will be taller than 7ft.* I would go for a variety that covers the compost heap quickly and can be cut later, rather than a slow grower.

Q Last year I planted a clematis called 'Aurew' in an old apple tree. Can you tell me when it flowers and what colour it will be? — J. Ferguson, Rainham, Essex.

A *Search me, Mr Ferguson.* It does not appear in *The Plant Finder*, or any other literature I have on clematis. Could it be 'Andrew', a summer-flowering bluish-violet six footer, bred in 1952?

- *Readers wishing to have their gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend,* The Times, *1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *also regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Divide clumps of autumn-flowering colchicum bulbs before flower growth is induced by autumn rain. Single bulbs will soon build up again into clumps.*
- *Cuttings of pinks may be taken now, using 3in long shoots around a pot of sandy compost.*
- *Regal pelargoniums may be rested for a few weeks with little water before starting into growth again.*
- *Liquid feed cucumbers, tomatoes and courgettes regularly.*
- *Shorten side shoots on plums; earth up and stake Brussels sprouts in windy gardens; and spray potatoes.*

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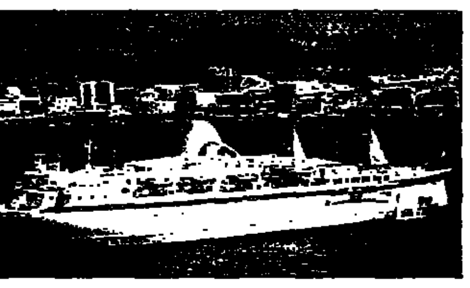

VICTORIA TRAVEL, the gardening cruise specialist, has arranged a special package for *Times* readers, departing from Dover on the *Black Prince* on Wednesday, November 20, 1996. *The Times* party on the 13-night cruise to Madeira and the Canaries will be lead by Stephen Anderton, the gardening correspondent of *The Times.*

For bookings *made* by *September 1*, prices start at £649 per person for a three-berth cabin, £899 per person for a two-bed cabin and £899 per person for a four-berth family cabin. Port charges, insurance, drinks and gratuities are extra. There are excellent restaurant, leisure and entertainment facilities on board the *Black Prince* which can carry 440 passengers.

Second-class return rail travel to Dover is free from any UK station. Readers in *Ireland can enjoy free flights from Belfast* and Dublin. For car drivers, there is free parking at Dover. Victoria Travel can arrange subsidised overnight hotel rates. Each passenger receives a free travel bag.

You don't have to be a keen gardener to enjoy this sun-kissed voyage which *includes visits to* Lisbon, Gibraltar and Tenerife. One of the highspots of the cruise will be the time spent on the wonderful island of Madeira. For the first 80 passengers to book with *The Times*, this will include a visit to the famous *Reids Hotel for* afternoon tea and a tour of the garden.

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- To get full details of the itinerary, cabin prices and a booking form contact Victoria *Travel today, by phone on 0121-445 5656, by* fax on 0121 445 6177, or complete the coupon below.

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THE TIMES GARDENING CRUISE

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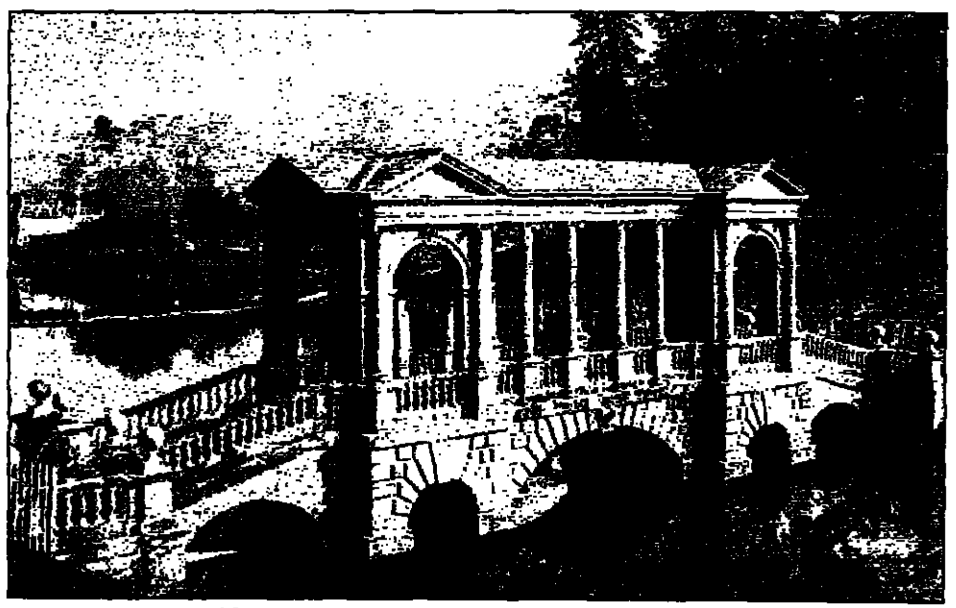
Gardens to visit this weekend

Bosvigo House, Truro, Cornwall (01872 75774)

Bosvigo Lane, from A390 turn into Dobbs Lane at Highertown. Open 11am-6pm. £2, children 50p.

Cornwall's gardens are renowned for their spring and early-summer displays, but few come to their best in high*summer. Bosvigo House is* one that does and offers holiday-makers in Cornwall not only an enlightening garden to visit but an array of unusual plants to buy and take home. Around the 18th-century house *the Perrys have, during the* last 15 years, planted and designed in a style both controlled and yet adventurous. This is exemplified in the hot garden, which lies enclosed by mixed hedges on the edge of *the one-acre woodland.* Brilliant shades of red, orange and yellow flowers: dahlias and alstroemerias interplanted with roses in shades of red and purple are ingeniously matched with an array of purple foliage ranging from beech to beetroot.

Whether following the woodland walk or admiring the smaller-scale enclosures and walled garden, visitors can appreciate that the attention to detail in plant combinations is exemplary. Unusual pelargoniums are a speciality but the nursery is packed with a variety of delights.



The Palladian bridge at the newly restored Prior Park in Avon, with Bath behind

Stone House Cottage, Stone, Kidderminster, Worcestershire (01562 69902)

In Stone, two miles south of Kidderminster on A448. Open Mar-Sept, Wed-Sat, and Augt 25 and 26, 10am-5.30pm. £2, children free.

There is a select group of gardens that I would visit *every year for the combination* of enjoyment and education they provide. Stone House Cottage is unquestionably one of them. As you approach, a glimpse of the San-Giminiano-like brick towers appears. They are the work of James Arbuthnot whose building skills, evident in the garden's selection of follies, complement his wife's horticultural ones. Before entering the *garden through a delightful* brick gatehouse you are tempted to stray immediately one side, to the rows of plants in the nursery. But these are best left until later, when you have had the chance to admire many of them growing against the brick walls or in the borders of the garden. From ornamental trees planted in groups where the grass is left rough-mown to tiny alpines in a pattern of raised beds in front of the house, there is a glowing healthiness among the plants, many of which are rare. Given the range and *quantity of plants, it would be* misleading to suggest specialities, but the combinations of wall-plants and climbers are especially striking — and at most times of the flowering year. Right now, clematis 'Etoile Rose' growing through Pittosporum 'Abbotsbury Gold' and the pale-yellow flower Rose 'Leuverkesen' with the pale-blue flowered species *Clematis viticella* and *Clematis rhederiana*, whose yellow flowers smell of cowslips, clambering together is a small selection of the treats on offer to visitors.

Prior Park, Bath, Avon (01985 843600)

In Bath, entrance on Ralph Allen Drive, via public transport from city centre, no parking at garden. Open daily from July 18, except Tues, noon-5.30pm (dusk if earlier). £3.80, children £1.90.

There could be no better setting for a quintessential English landscape garden than the Georgian city of Bath, and Prior Park is one of England's most significant products of the 18th-century landscape movement. In 1993, the garden was given to the National Trust and this weekend sees it open after a programme of repair and restoration costing £500,000 and confirming the trust's *ability to* carry out such work. Being only 28 acres, it is in some ways a microcosm of the qualities that distinguished the 18th-century garden, but the qualities are all there none the less. The garden was created by a *combination of* the period's most distinguished cultural and gardening figures: Ralph Allen, *connoisseur*, entrepreneur and philanthropist, who was Prior Park's owner and for whom the Bath architect, John Wood, built the Palladian mansion; Allen's friend and informal adviser, Alexander Popel, and Capability Brown, who landscaped the garden. The view is dominated by the most important of Prior Park's garden buildings, the Palladian bridge. It is one of only three in the country and sited for utmost effect. The bridge crosses one of the series of three lakes around which the landscape of woodland and sweeping grass slopes was *designed. Newly rebuilt paths* lead through the wilderness and other areas where visitors can admire Prior Park's other architectural ornaments.

Hilton Court, Roch, Haverfordwest, Dyfed (01437 710262)

A487 St David's Road from Haverfordwest, three-quarters of a mile beyond Simpson Cross sign to Hilton on left. Open daily Mar-Oct, 10am-6pm; Nov-Feb weekends only. Free (voluntary donation to charity).

Any gardening enthusiast holidaying on the Pembroke*shire coast in west Wales* should visit Hilton Court. They should also remember to leave space in their car for the plants they will inevitably buy in the nursery that overlooks the garden. The site is old, with an *18th-century house*, but the garden is substantially as created by the present owners during the last seven years. The most impressive feature is the view across the garden and series of interlinking lakes that have been created from the existing stream. At this time of year the garden has a spectacular dis*play of water lilies and other* aquatic plants, in particular enormous gunnera. Among a wide range of flowering trees and shrubs the foliage of paulownia imperialis and a purple-leaved catalpha are impressive from now through to late-summer when they will flower. In the nursery, as well as the aquatics, an intriguing speciality are plants resistant to wind and spray, suitable for seaside gardening.

GEORGE PLUMPTRE

Irrigation for dry humour in Sussex

Julian Treyer Evans creates a piece of whimsy from a three-acre field for Anita Roddick and husband, Gordon

Anita Roddick's one and only request was that her garden should have "a sense of humour". Tricky. Hilarious hostas? Witty wisteria? Funny phlox? Plant names may be odd but the plants are never funny, so to follow her wishes, the humour had to come from the ornament: jumping goldfish; anticlockwise sun dials; Humpty Dumpty sitting on a ha-ha; and, over the boundary wall, some fibreglass, BSE-free cattle in a next-door field.

The trouble is that the amusing can pall and become irritating. It was important, therefore, to design a garden that would survive the funny side and that depends on good planting.

Twelve years ago the Roddicks's garden was just a three-acre field that sloped down towards their house. The plan was to create a series of steps, levels, and "rooms", which would culminate at the top of the garden in a heart-stopping view across the Sussex landscape.

To screen one area off from the next, walls were built and hedges were planted. When completed, the walls looked horribly stark. The hedging plants — yew, beech and box — looked small and rather pathetic. As they also have a reputation for growing slowly, there was a hint of panic in the air. It was obvious that the plants needed encouragement, and the best way of doing this was to install an irrigation system.

The plants benefited immediately from a supply of water, which was delivered not only regularly, but directly towards their roots. Wastage and evaporation were minimal. Evaporation was further reduced because the system was programmed to come on at night.

The nutrients that had been applied to the soil in granular form, to give the plants a further boost, were guaranteed to be washed in. Before the installation of the system, plants had been watered when they were seen to be wilting, which can do more harm that good — it sends plants into shock. An automatic irrigation system never gives a plant the chance to wilt.

Hosepipe bans can be overcome by having your own supply, whether a water storage tank or bore hole. The size of the water storage area required can be worked out by calculating the square meterage and multiplying it by three for lawns, four for borders, and eight for trees. The answer comes out in litres per day. A hundred square metres of lawn therefore needs 300 litres a day to water it properly.

To complement an automatic irrigation system, piles of compost were added to the soil, and Scotty, the Roddicks's redoubtable gardener, carried out a well-organised organic foliar feeding programme.

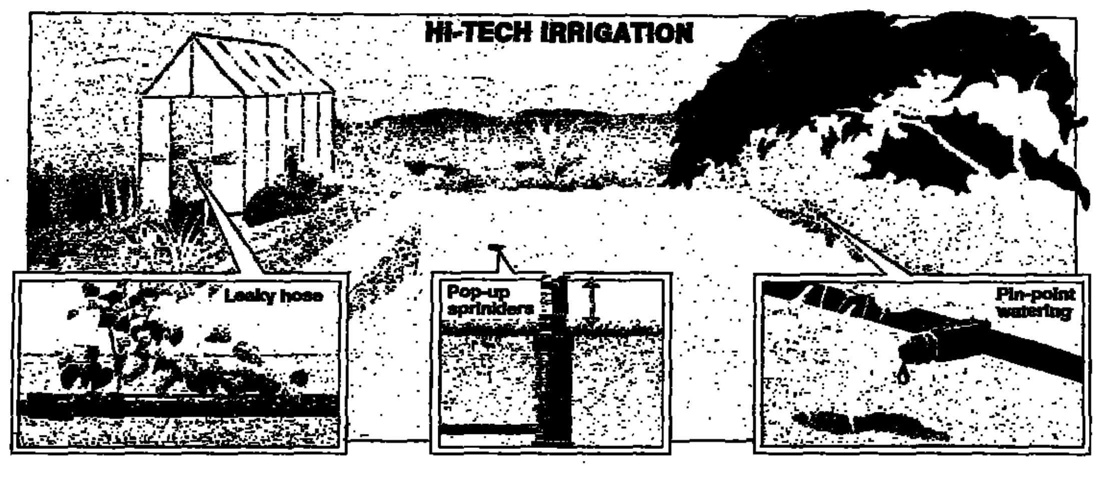
The upshot was that the garden grew in record time. The walls were soon hidden, and the yew hedges defied the doubters by leaping up a foot a year. They grew so quickly that the grass paths beside them grew scraggy in the shade, and in some areas had to be replaced with paving stones. Even the box and beech hedges, which were cut back hard in spring and foliar-fed with a water and manure potion twice a year, grew encouragingly well.

Everything seemed wonderful. But, inch by inch, the structural shrubs began to elbow their way to the front of the borders, squashing the light and restricting the space of the "choicer" plants. The garden developed a heavy look. There was less interest: the variety had gone.

After eight years of rumbustious growth it was time to change. The strongest growers — the leathery leaved elaeagnus with an insignificant but scented flower, the summer-flowering, shiny leaved escallonia, and the winter-flowering viburnum — were removed without ceremony. Others — including the golden privets and the aucubas, even though they were nearly 6ft tall — were dug up, pruned and replanted in more appropriate positions. Some shrubs, such as the 7ft-high mahonia 'Charity', and the winter-flowering *Sarcococca hookerana digyna*, were cut back hard. A new less-menacing structure of plants was established, and into the gaps perennials were planted, which brought back the panache, the variety and the sparkle.

ANDREW HASSON

The tapir, boy and apple core are all part of Anita Roddick's desire for a humorous garden. But the amusing can pall, so good planting was necessary for the garden to survive



Eventually only one part of the garden remained unplanted and unaffected by the irrigation system: the top field. Anita suggested planting wild flowers. We planned to keep the planting simple, and to have broad interlocking shapes of single colours. We chose field poppies, ox-eye daisies and the blue flax, *Linum perenne*. To prepare for the poppies, the grass was grubbed off and rotovated. Scotty planted the seed in January, at four grams per square metre, twice the recommended rate, and raked it in. The poppies flourished, producing a huge blood-red gash across the side of the hill. The ox-eye daisies, which were planted as plugs (young seedlings grown in a pocket of compost) at five per metre, became a billowing sheet of white, but the flax flopped because it was overcome by thistles.

The astonishing speed of growth taught us how important it is to remain flexible. There was no room for sentimentality. Anita and Gordon accept and encourage alterations to keep the garden looking fresh and interesting.

There used to be an orchard, for instance, but as the apples never really "did" it was removed and replaced by a secret garden. Stepping stones used to wind through it, but were replaced with a brick path, because Anita's legs could never quite reach between them. I often wonder if she saw the joke.

- *For more information about irrigation systems contact a garden centre or ring Gardena (01462 475015), Precise Irrigation UK (01235 763 760) or Leaky Pipe Systems/Eco Systems (01622 746 495).*

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In the week that dog star Pippin senior died, Pippin junior gives us a behind-the-scenes glimpse at his celebrity home life

Lights, camera . . . sit up and bark

Anyone with a child of four or five will have heard of Pippin, the star of the BBC's unlikeliest daytime television hit, *Come Outside*. Pippin, whose grandmother of the same name died last week, is a small dog that acts its hairy socks off each week in search of adventure with her owner, Auntie Mabel, in their multicoloured light aircraft.

Made for BBC School Programmes, the series crept quietly into the schedules a few years ago. But Pippin's enchanting antics soon gained the series a much wider following with entranced home audiences.

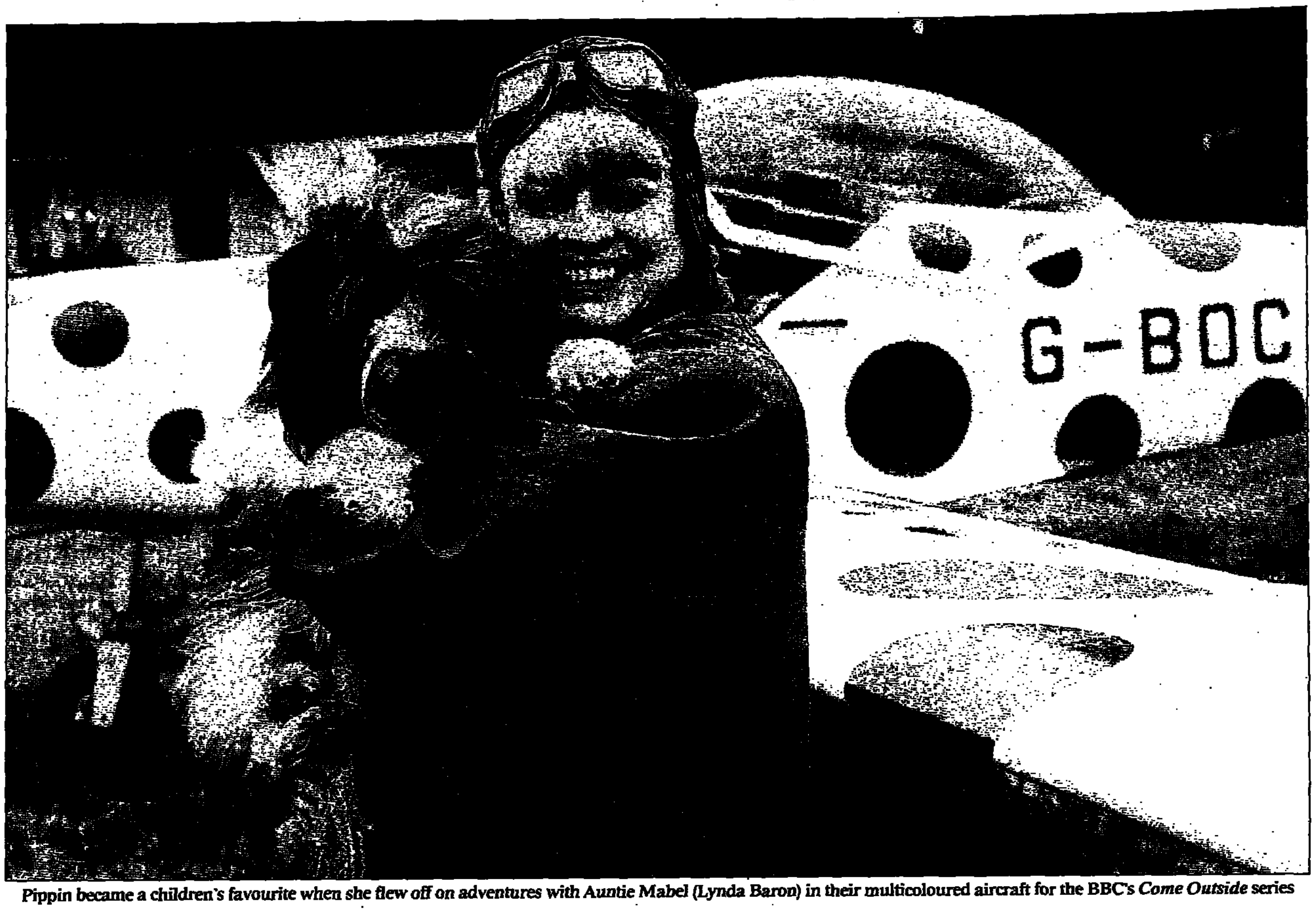
As a result, Pippin is now Britain's biggest animal star. She receives sackloads of fan mail from all over the country — often addressed simply to "Pippin, Berkshire". When the dog is spotted in public, she is mobbed by youngsters as bemused parents look on.

Pippin is owned by the veteran animal trainer, Ann Head, of Animalation: "Pippin started training when she was just eight weeks old — and she was a natural," she says.

The secret to training dogs, she says, is letting the animal do everything for itself. Touching the dog or pushing down its back is taboo. "Rewards are given only when they do the right thing. Another golden rule is never to have a routine. Show dogs must be able to repeat something time and again, but that doesn't work for performing animals."

One-word commands from Ms Head prompt eager Pippin Jnr to trot out the full gamut of animal emotions for my benefit: she smiles, looks hurt, hides her face, sneezes, rolls over, crawls, holds her head perfectly still, picks up coins then drops them into a piggy bank and even barks.

"She's always wanted to learn new tricks," Ms Head says. "I'm convinced dogs love being mentally stimulated. Pippin enjoys what she's doing or she wouldn't perform."



Pippin became a children's favourite when she flew off on adventures with Auntie Mabel (Lynda Baron) in their multicoloured aircraft for the BBC's *Come Outside* series

Pippin stepped into her aged grandmother's shoes several years ago. With a little spray-on hair dye the dog looks identical. Both generations of Pippin defy convention on their antecedence, being of the popular "who knows?" variety. However, we know they are relatives of the four-legged Hollywood film-star Benji, whose films from the 1970s have grossed $100 million.

When Pippin is not training or filming she reverts to being the Head family pet. "She loves all the things a normal dog loves," Ms Head says. On filming days, Pippin is up at 5am, with a bath followed by meticulous grooming. Talcum powder is brushed into the coat, for an especially silky finish. Although hotels rarely allow guests to bring dogs, exceptions are invariably made for Pippin, who behaves impeccably and travels with a small, self-contained "kennel", the canine celebrity equivalent of a luxury trailer.

Filming itself is often reduced to hysterics. "We have to find words Pippin won't understand," the director, Elizabeth Bennett, says. "When we start a shot with 'turnover, speed, action', 'speed' sounds like 'speak', so Pippin barks.

"Nor can I say 'action' to the actors because Pippin takes it as her cue to start and runs into shot. Instead it's 'everybody get going'."

The secret of Pippin's winning performances, like those of all working animals, is food. To entice Pippin to perform, Auntie Mabel's costume has a lined, waterproof pocket crammed with sausage rewards. For Lynda Baron, who plays Auntie Mabel, the sausages can also be used to fight filming fatigue.

"Sitting in the cockpit all day when it's hot is hard work," she says. "So when Pippin and I are getting tired, I feed her all the sausages, then claim we've run out so they have to stop and let us out.

"At other times, sausages are hidden behind dustbins or in bushes, although I did once draw the line at Pippin and I performing with a sausage pushed down the toilet. Pippin was fine but I couldn't keep a straight face."

DOG TRICKS

IF YOU think your dog has what it takes, try teaching it these tricks:

■ Hide Your Eyes: placing one or both front paws over its eyes and then peeping out.

■ Roll-Over: lying down and rolling all the way over.

■ Crawl: nicknamed "the MP". Crawling on its belly until ordered to stop.

■ Go With: accompanying an actor as if belonging to them. Looking at the trainer is strictly forbidden.

■ Speak: barking on command.

■ Don't Wag: the hardest trick of all. No involuntary wagging of the tail. If your dog can do this to order then prepare to go walkies in the Hollywood hills.

Work is now well under way on the third series, which will see Pippin and Auntie Mabel sniffing out how soap is made, in Lancashire, how pencils get their lead, in the Lake District, and how bricks are made, in Leicestershire.

Frank Flynn, the head of commissioning for BBC School Programmes, says of the series: "Children identify with Pippin and Auntie Mabel and, as a result, it's a great way to get them to look at a whole range of environmental issues. It's a winning format and undoubtedly Pippin is the root of its appeal."

It's said that the best performing animals are so highly trained they look as if they've had no training at all. For Ms Head, the apparent spontaneity of Pippin's performance is the reason she is deluged with calls from other dog owners.

"Everyone wants to put their animal on television, but they would be amazed at just how difficult it is," she says.

As well as Pippin, Ms Head also trains or works with many animals appearing in commercials, including Arthur the cat and the Andrex puppies. "The puppies have to be exactly eight weeks old," she says. "Every shot is a different puppy because they tire so quickly. And we always use girl pups, unless they are actually sitting down.

"Arthur eats out of the can with his paw because he can't get his head inside. But the can does have a false bottom hiding a heavy weight to stop it moving around. Arthur only eats that way when he's working — he normally eats from a bowl like any other cat."

TIM WAPSHOTT

● *Come Outside returns to our screens in September*

Old red legs is back

Feather Report

THE FIRST barley is being cut, and clear views are opening up again across the lines of yellow stubble. It is a moment when you may get a sight of a red-legged partridge stalking along by a distant hedge, keeping its head low. Every so often it jerks upright like a jack-in-the-box and looks around. Then it crouches and moves on again.

It is a striking bird, with black and chestnut bars along its flank as if it had been grilled. It also has a white throat fringed with black, and red legs and beak. But when it is walking straight away from you in the corn or grass, all those features are out of sight, and it is not very easy to distinguish from a common, or grey partridge.

Its call is the most distinctive thing about it — a loud, clucking "chukka, chukka", quite different from the creaky notes of the common partridge. It also has a kind of song, a repeated wheezy grunt that has been compared to an old steam-engine at work.

It is not a native bird — it is often called a French partridge — but was introduced in Suffolk in 1790. It is now widespread in the drier eastern counties of England, and is probably about as numerous as the common partridge, taking Britain as a whole.

EVERY YEAR, quite a few young, hand-reared red-legs are released into the country for shooting in the autumn, and some of them survive to breed, but there has been no substantial further colonisation since the end of the 18th century. They are easier to shoot than common partridges, because the coveys scatter more when they fly up ahead of the guns.

Quite recently it has been discovered that the red-leg has bizarre breeding habits. The female lays a clutch of eggs in a nest at the edge of a field, then lays a second clutch in another nest. After that she goes back to incubate her first clutch, while the male settles down on the other one. With such productivity, it is not surprising that the red-leg is holding its own.

DERWENT MAY

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PET NEWS

Shell out on a race

THE EYES OF international snail racers will be on the village cricket ground at Congham in Norfolk today. Pet snail fanciers will be gathering there for the World Snail Racing Championships, when some 100 snails will race over a 13in course from the centre of a circle to the perimeter. A local boy, Carl Banham, snatched the world record from Canada last year when his entry, Archie, sprinted the distance in two minutes. Smart money this year is on Archie III, bred by Carl from the 1995 champion. The organiser, Hilary Scase, says: "Congham is to snail racing what Newmarket is to horse racing." For more information ring 01485 600650.

Picture this

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JACK CROSSLEY

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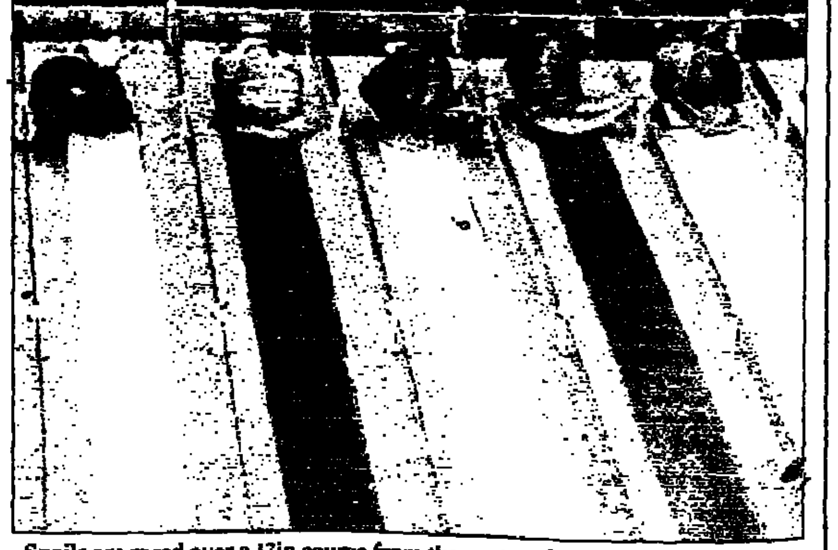

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FIT, active, professional woman, young 60's, N/S, no ties; solvent. London based, seeks Gentleman similar, preferably younger. Box No 7410

FIT early 60's, widow (Nottingham), n/s, enjoys dining out, music, theatre, WLTM caring prof gentleman, similar age Please Reply to Box No 7585

FIVE Glamazons (in early 30's) require gorgeous partners for forthcoming London Ball. Like us, you are single, successful, cultured and fun. Please Reply to Box No 7624

GENTLEMEN, 100's of stylish ladies in your local area now! See Elite Introduction's main ad in this section today!

GUJARATI Vaishnav family based in Dubai invite alliances from a NRI business family based in Dubai/London for beautiful career orientated, vegetarian, intelligent, educated daughter, divorcee, age 30 yrs. Good height, from well to do and conservative family background. Persons with very similar background, well settled, please write in strict confidence with full details, tel. no, address and recent colour photograph to Box No 7466 London.

IPSWICH/COLCHESTER Why take a chance when you can make a choice? Call Ann or Martin at Close Encounters on 01473 219141

IS THERE a tall, handsome, witty gent 30-40 who would like to smile every day with a tall, attractive 34 year old lady. Lancs. Photo & letter. Please Reply to Box No 7637

JEWISH woman, 30 years old, slim & attractive. London based. Very happy & financially sound, needs an educated man up to 40 with heart & sensitivity to share my life. Box 7557

LEEDS /HARROGATE /Hull/York Why take a chance when you can make a choice? Call Annette or Marina at Close Encounters 01937 841887

LEICESTER/NOTTINGHAM Men - Why don't you call Vicky at Close Encounters on 01522 682594

LIVELY, leggy lady (44) with striking looks and strong sense of the absurd seeking tall, kind, humorous man (44 - 55) to share love, life and adventure in wild places. Reply Box 7498

NICE girl 30's, London based, seeks a nice man. Please reply by describing your idea of a wonderful evening. ALA. Reply to Box No 7556

NORTH WALES/CHESHIRE Men it's simple! One call equals hundreds of attractive, eligible ladies. Call Roy or Joanna at Close Encounters on 01248 811829

OLD FASHIONED English Rose originally grown in Highlands, flourishing happily in Kent/ Sussex seeks spiritually aware gentleman 52-62 to share love, peace, harmony. Box No 7561

PHILIPPINES lady, divorced, 36, easy going, positive, GSOH WLTM kind, gentle loving man (36-50) for serious relationship. Londonbased. Letter/photo Please Reply to Box No 7526

PORTSMOUTH/ARUNDEL Men - Why call long distance? One call equals hundreds of gorgeous ladies. Call Ian or Patricia at Close Encounters on 01705 382260

PROFESSIONAL woman, classical pianist, artist and writer; fond of poetry, books, theatre, France; conversation, laughter, new ideas. Anglican, widow, 50 WLRM prof/academic man 48-60. London. Box No 7500

S. WARKS. Mids. Lively, petite, graduate, Francophile, loves arts, travel, sport, food/wine, seeks similar fit caring n/s male 40s/50s. Reply to Box No 7641

SALISBURY/BOURNEMOUTH ... or you may want to call Nick or Carin at Close Encounters on 01722 415644

SAVE me from Saga! Upmarket cultured Lefty (50-60) sought by presentable female central London, wanting to redress imbalance of exciting job/non-existent personal life. Sense of fun essential; enthusiasm for music, sex, D.I.Y and cinema a real bonus. Box No 7658

SHARE my rucksack. Unpretentious W Mids. N/S lady (40's), no ties, seeks slim gentleman to enjoy the countryside, music, theatre & travel together. Reply with photo to Box No 7591

SINDHI family based in Dubai invite alliances from a NRI business family based in Dubai/London for beautiful, career orientated vegetarian, intelligent, educated daughter, divorcee, age 30 yrs. Good height from well-to-do and conservative family background, well settled. Please write in Strict Confidence with full details tel. no. address and recent colour photograph to the Times, Box No 7465 London

SLIM, gracious, musical, cultured Salisbury pearl, 63, seeks harmony with tall 'gentil parfait knight' 66+, possessing chivalry brains & humour. 7482

SOPHISTICATED established English city/country gentleman under 50 with ballroom dancing experience/interest sought as partner to a refined young spirited lady. Box 7657.

ST ALBANS/WELWYN Men - Why call long distance? One call equals hundreds of attractive women. Ring Jim or Sue at Close Encounters on 01234 838784

SURREY professional working widow, with usual civilised pursuits, WLTM unattached intelligent & educated gentleman 64-64 for genuine friendship. Photo please to Box 7617

SURREY MEN 30-65 required for our extensive ladies membership Call Mike at Close Encounters 01932 783165

TALL, slender, elegant lady with humour, loves the obvious - travel, antiques, etc. seeks genuine, fit, solvent gentleman 5'10"+ (40-55) for everything. North Notts/ Derbyshire/ Lincs. Photo plse. Box 7574

VACANCY for soulmate. 6 ft, slim, sporty, humorous, interesting, prof sought by attractive, 50 yr old, many interests. Send full CV with photo - ALA. (Cheshire). Box No 7419

WANTED: Man with Black & Decker. Woman 46, divorced seeks man to help her mend that broken window and to laugh with. Oxon/ London. Box 7588

WARM, funny, passionate woman/mother 38, needs man for big lifelong hugs, kisses and commitment. Likes good conversation, laughing, wants to build happy family home. WLTM happy, n/s, 30-50, confident, talkative, loving, considerate 'Absolutely Fabulous' man Colchester area. Photo please Reply to Box No 7593

WARM, glamorous, cherishable woman (Jewish), 50, London based. Entering Chapter 2. Seeks comfortable, dependable man who enjoys homelife, travel, concerts, countryside, sunshine, laughter. Box 7632

WEST MIDLANDS for quality introductions call Phil at Close Encounters on 01902 742977

GOOD looking Peggotty, slim, n/s young widow 49, who loves Mahler, Marvell, cats, spiders and the Arts WLTM n/s Mr Barkus/Micawber London/ E Anglia Please Reply Box 7411

GRADUATE Lady, slim, attractive 49: loves work: interests include gym, dancing, eating out or in. Seeks happy man of similar age with sense of humour, committed to all he does. Photo would be good. Please Reply to Box No 7487

HAVING the time of my life, wish you were here! Career woman by day, human by night. WLTM professional gentleman N/S, 45-58 young outlook, preferably Midlands based, 5'10"+. Loves family, animals, dancing. ALA. Photo please. Box 7490

HOMELOVING yet sophisticated attractive professional lady, kind & caring, with an appreciation of a good home & family, with a fun loving outlook, enjoys music (Queen, Elton John) & dancing. Seeks intelligent male (50-60) with GSOH to enjoy life together. London/E Anglia. A recent photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 7344

HUGE reward offered to tallish, cultured prof n/s man 50's - 60's with many interests. Old fashioned ideals and a generous heart, who can rekindle the flames of love smouldering in the passionate heart of slim, successful blonde enchantress. Beautiful home and lots of fun await you. Photo please. London/South East Box 7336

I AM a very attractive, intelligent, professional, loving, sensitive, sensuous, reliable, loyal, funny, fit 40something vegetarian, Jewish woman (London based). Could you be my male counterpart. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 7364

IMPERFECT but optimistic Kent divorcee WLTM gentleman 60-69 approx. to explore growing older gracefully/disgracefully, enjoying laughter, loving - (her cooking?). Reply to Box 7251

MATERNITY nurse, 32, would like to retire to a life of luxury in the company of single, kind, adventurous, intelligent, fit, Gentleman (30-45). Tired of working, I want time to enjoy romance, restaurants, sports, travel & champagne with sincere man who'll make me laugh, 5'10", green eyes & lots of love to give. N/S essential. photo plse. Londonbased.7494

ONE off opportunity. Sophisticated, attractive young lady mid 50's, looking for articulate sincere gentleman. Midlands area. Photo preferred Please Reply to Box No 7503

OUTDOOR-LOVING fit businesswoman based Southwest WLTM a tall fun loving male 45+ for whatever? Enjoys all sports, theatre etc. Please Reply with photo to Box No 7346

PASSIONATE, pretty, professional woman, slim, dark (50's), lots of fun, seeks intelligent, sensitive, professional man 45-60 ish. Reply Box No 7320

PETITE, attractive blonde, 37, successful independent happy with SOH, no ties seeks confident, substantial man 38-45 who's interesting & interested. GOSH. Londonbased. Photo please. Reply to Box No 7479

PROF. blonde, bombshell (36) WLTM kind, prof, successful man (36-47) for dinner, opera, etc. London/Herts area. Photo essential. Box No 7423

SLIM attractive brunette Female seeks Male 40's with style and wit not to take it too seriously. N.W./Yorks. Box No 7229

SOPHISTICATED, attractive, slim, black lady (30), West Midlands area seeks genuine long-term relationship with professional male who knows how to enjoy life - nationality not important. Please reply with photo to Box No 7495

STRAIGHTFORWARD male, 61, graduate, 6 ft, fit, many interests, solvent. Seeks attractive lady 40's/60's who wants a loving and confident man in her life. If the chemistry is right, you will have no regrets. London or thereabouts. Photo. Please Reply to Box No 7436

UNEXPECTEDLY available! Ex B.Cal. air hostess, 36, attractive, elegant brunette seeks stimulating company (South). Reply to Box No 7388

VERY attractive, slim, vivacious, cultured, middleaged woman, living London/ Southwest WLTM tall man, 55+ in order to enjoy life to the full. Photo/tel. no plse. Box No 7368

GENTLEMEN

A FAIR Exchange? Security & affection for beauty & affection. Millionaire widower, reasonable looking & fit, seeks beautiful younger (35-40) wife. A brief Resumé please with a photo. Reply to Box No 7659

AM I likely, through this column, to meet an elegant sexy lady, mid thirties, who loves watching sport, buying books and has a wide range of interest in music. Like me, will you travel far to eat well. I am 49, 5'11, dry sense of humour, divorced and reasonably attractive (some might say). You don't have to be Jewish, live in the South or be a Lawyer but photo please. Reply to Box No 7655

ARE you tall, dark haired lady 38+ with free time for friendship & TLC. 50, educated businessman would love to hear from you. Confidentiality assured. London/South. Please reply to Box No 7566

ARE you intelligent, attractive, smart, shapely, feminine, 35-50 & N/S? I am slim, dark, attractive, intelligent, & caring, N/S, early 50's. Photo plse. Northwest/ anywhere. Box No 7579

A SINCERE caring widower wonders if there is a similar special N/S cheerful widow over 60 with good SOH who enjoys luxury, country life, theatre, sport esp golf, sunshine hols & lives in Sussex. Plse reply in strictest confidence to Box No 7648

A TALL 38yr old gent, kind, trusting, loyal, warmhearted, goodlooking (so I'm told). GSOH. Likes golf, photography, music & travel, & the good things in life, money allowing. You aged between 30-36, goodlooking, GSOH as above. Children welcome. Travel no problem. Nice letter & photo plse. ALA. E.Mid based. 7396

BACHELOR (Recycled) with some assets (wit, charm, four wheels, trpl) but liabilities (bald, dominant) seeks short, slender, submissive lady, 38-48, London based. Please Reply Box 7616

BIRMINGHAM prof, 48, WLTM 30-50 lady, n/s, who loves music, food, wine, theatre, travel Please Reply Box 7596

BOURNEMOUTH, 6'2" normal, solvent, attractive divorced male, sporty, outgoing, 40, WLTM slim attractive solvent n/s lady 30-40 to share future with. Photo appreciated All replies answered Box 7549

BRAVEHEART fit early 30's not unattractive with GSOH. Recently relocated to Hampshire area, interests include cinema, eating out, pubs and lots of travel. Seeks slim, fit, attractive male with lively personality to form lasting relationship. Please Reply with photo to Box 7614

CARDIFF ZZZZzzz ... Wake up! Please call Phil today at Close Encounters on 01222 252020

CARING, humorous, warm man 40's, WLTM pretty soulmate 30's/40's with traditional values, honesty & trust, to share life as it happens. Country pursuits, family friendships, sailing, skiing, even bikes. Photo please. Hants. based. Bx 7628

CHELTENHAM/GLOUCESTER Close Encounters has 100's of eligible men in your area. Call Sue or Anthony 01600 860695

CHICHESTER/PORTSMOUTH 25m radius. 100's of professional gentlemen wanting to meet you. Elite Introductions Freephone now 0500 424568

CHOOSY lady of contrasts sought by intelligent, attractive, humorous Maverick, 30, adventurous (waterskiing, parachute jumping) yet contemplative (enjoys quiet evenings a deux). You need to be humorous, spontaneous & dazzling. Photo please to Box No 7568

COTSWOLDS workaholic looking to share the more important things in life with a n/s prof. lady who's "39ish", active (older, sailor, golfer?), enjoys theatre, travel etc. and is equally seeking some mutual caring, sharing and fun. Reply: Box No 7666

COUNTRY living? Caring professional mid-40s, looks mid-30s, just bought lovely old West Country farmhouse. WLTM attractive woman in 30s. Kids are fine. Photo please. Reply to Box 7499

CREATIVE, intelligent male, 29, tall, sporty, caring, GSOH, seeks affectionate, fit, N/S female, London.Box No 7586

DUBLIN City, 31, D4, allegedly "cute", returned Emigrant, Banker, seeks compatible female to re-discover Ireland. Please Reply to Box No 7407

FUN LOVING American (51) tall, presentable, athletic, loves tennis & golf, seeks lady (30-50), GSOH, for friendship/romance & possibly marriage. Will be in UK shortly. Photo to Box 7529

HANDSOME Knight in shining armour, Jewish, creative and seriously solvent, N.O. + N.S., thirty something seeks attractive slim twenty something damsel (preferably not in too much distress - But we can work on it) to love, cherish and adore, carry off into the sunset, build sandcastles, enjoy each other and live happily ever after. I'm London based, but will travel. Reply Box No 7661

HANDSOME successful 39 year old 6' 1" blue eyed bachelor seeks to partner assertive strict and demanding lady for "a special" long term relationship. Photo appreciated Please Reply to Box No 6992

I lead an exciting and opulent life alone with my horses in the south east. High time I met an attractive energetic 35-45 year old horsewoman companion who wants to share laughs and responsibilities with a divorced super fit relaxed extrovert in his 50's. Take the plunge and reply, honestly, with recent photo to Box No 7622

IPSWICH/COLCHESTER Why take a chance when you can make a choice? Call Ann or Martin at Close Encounters on 01473 219141

JEWISH male 30's, successful, happy, sporty, social, relaxed, 6', good looking (apparently!) n/s with enviable life-style, family values, seeks bright, pretty, girl/lady with grace, style & taste (whether jeans or black dress). Photo appreciated discretion assured London/ Home Counties Box 7518

KENT man 29 professional seeks lady friend for laughs. Photo please. Reply to Box No 7535

KIND, humorous, exciting, chivalrous, exotic n/s bearded, upper 40's, self grown, successful writer; seeks joyful, glamorous, sensuous, slim younger (under 35 yrs), tall female, of total beauty: to share love, (lots of) laughs and (minimum) 3 cuddles daily. Photo, phone &e.mail appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 7599

LADIES why call long distance? Call Mike at Close Encounters. Richmond, Twickenham, Kingston, Esher, Walton, Wimbledon. 01932 783165

LADIES, 100's of professional gentlemen in your local area! See Elite Introduction's main ad in this section today!

LANDOWNING lady graduate, thirtyish, sought by similar fifty plus Celt, view marriage, family. British Isles, France, Switzerland. Reply to Box No 7225

LEEDS /HARROGATE /Hull/York Why take a chance when you can make a choice? Call Annette or Marina at Close Encounters 01937 841887

LEICESTER/NOTTINGHAM Ladies - Why don't you call Vicky at Close Encounters on 01522 682594

LONDON professional man, 60, 5'8", slim, fit, active, interest in arts, travel, etc. WLTM well-educated younger lady. Photo appreciated. Please reply to Box No 7615

LOOKING for a change of direction? Successful, 6ft tall, attractive, cosmopolitan, early 50's man, in media, WLTM attractive, stimulating, N/S lady 38+ to build a future together. Cheltenham area. Go for it! Photo appreciated. Box No 7596

NON-SMOKER, non-drinker man 30, sincere, faithful, GSOH, looking for Ms. Right. Age 22-30 for long term relationship, possible marriage. London/Essex. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No

NORTH WALES/CHESHIRE Ladies it's simple! One call equals 100's of attractive, eligible men Call Roy/Joanna Close Encounters 01248 811829

PORTSMOUTH/ARUNDEL Ladies - Why call long distance? One call equals hundreds of handsome men. Call Ian or Patricia at Close Encounters on 01705 382260

PRESENTABLE wealthy property investor, mid fifties enjoys travel, golf, skiing, and all the good things in life WLTM slim stylish sexy lady with some similar interests to love and to cherish on a permanent basis. London/Southeast. Photo essential. Box No 7548

RIDING horses, travelling abroad, music and swimming are some of my interests. Goodlooking, 5ft 10in, 34, n/s, successful male, seeks attractive, intelligent female for serious relationship. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 7458

SALISBURY/BOURNEMOUTH ... or you may want to call Nick or Carin at Close Encounters on 01722 415644

SENSUAL Aries male, 57, 5'8", blue eyes, nice looks, great legs, romantic, successful, Jewish, stylish, offers happiness, laughter, passion & mutual pampering to a very special girl. Write to me. It could really happen this time. Reply Box No 7660

ST ALBANS/WELWYN Ladies - Why call long distance? One call equals 100's of attractive men. Ring Jim or Sue at Close Encounters on 01234 838784

STOP! Look! Listen! Kind, Caring & super witty (my words!) 50 less a bit, London prof & solvent 5' 5½" - bald(ing!), slim, darkish features. But also: loves: music, arts, travel, walking, food. Would possibly love you (hopefully forever) if you are kind bright attractive slim, n/s, not lefty feminist or problem bound then stop reading "Rendezvous" & write with photo Box 7543

STRAIGHTFORWARD male, 61, graduate, 6 ft, fit, many interests, solvent. Seeks attractive lady 40's/50's who wants a loving and confident man in her life. If the chemistry is right, you will have no regrets. London or thereabouts. Photo. Please Reply to Box No 7436

TALL, slim Establishment man, 60's seeks unpossessive woman for walking & cuddles. Nepal in 1997? South. Box No 7587

VERY attractive businessman, 39, enjoying quality lifestyle. Interests: good food, wine, travel, the countryside, antiques WLTM very attractive, elegant lady with style 25-45 for long term relationship. Photo essential. Box No 7473.

WANTED: An attractive, intelligent mermaid! (35-45) who looks good in a bikini to join a young looking, 50 year old professional (divorced) for sailing holiday around Turkey, and maybe much more! Photo essential/details please. South Leicestershire. Box No 7498

WEALTHY, sporty but immature M.D., late 50s, 6ft tall, 14½ stone seeks modern girlfriend/ potential partner within 20 miles of Solihull, W. Midlands. Must be very attractive size 10/12 5'3"/5'9" tall. Please don't reply if you cannot make me tingle when we smooch to Nat King Cole/Sammy Davis Jnr/Frank Sinatra. Guarantee photo returned. Box No 7618

WEST MIDLANDS For quality introductions call Phil at Close Encounters on 01902 742977

YORKSHIRE. Frilly feminine and firm formed buxom (14-18) belle (30-40) sought by romantic man late 40s fun, fit & financially secure. Loves stilettos stockings, style & sincerity. Please reply to Box No 7443.

YORKSHIRE Gentleman 47 many interests GSOH would like to meet proficient female artist with a view to friendship and possible business venture. Please Reply to Box No 7607

YOUNG gentleman 60, divorced, 6'1", N/S, ex Co chairman, of adequate means, WLTM refined lady, mid fifties, present circumstances immaterial to share interests of countryside, travel, theatre & a warm fireside. To enjoy many years of living, love & laughter. Photo essential for reply. Privacy assured. Reply to Box No 7530

WELL-OFF professional gentleman WLTM young lady 20-35 years for friendship & fun. Could accompany to casino & dancing. Kent based. Please Reply to Box No 7427

YORKSHIRE. Frilly feminine and firm formed buxom (14-18) belle (30-40) sought by romantic man late 40s fun, fit & financially secure. Loves stilettos stockings, style & sincerity. Please reply to Box No 7443.

LOOKING for someone to spice up my life. This 42 yr old, blue eyed, 6' 2", Firefighter enjoys travel, outdoor pursuits, sport & dining out. Has GSOH, allegedly attractive, witty, intelligent & literate. Seeks intelligent attractive lady 30-45, any nationality. Cardiff based. Photo apprec. Box No 6993

MUSICAL and arty, 5" 10+ slim, dark, blue-eyed handsome professional (42) travelling frequently between Edinburgh and London/South East would like to meet lovely willowy woman (28-40). If weekends in Edinburgh, walks in the romantic Highlands and fun nights in London appeal, do write. Photo appreciated. Box No 7057

NOT tall, dark, handsome filthy rich or 'Arty'. East Midland prof man with varied interests seeks lady (35-45) to share the good things in his life. Teetotal vegetarians who suffer from motion sickness would not enjoy my company. Please Reply with photo to Box 6946

NYMPH (O?) with super brain sought by 6 ft, dark, slim, N/S, charismatic, creative company owner. No looks stereotypes but if you are fit, energetic, 30-40, confident, cultured, inquiring, gregarious, sexy, affectionate, sporty and have a passion for all senses & no ties, we just might be able to share friendship, lots of travel, sailing, skiing, music, intimacy, food & wine, discussion, intellectual equality, love?, life? Improbable but not impossible. More info if you write with phone number (& photo if possible). Essex/London area. Can travel. Reply to Box No 7070

PROFESSIONAL bloke, based in London, but travels worldwide, seeks lady 30-40 to share adventures with. Me, average looking, early 40's, 6 ft tall, easy going but nervous trying this advertising lark. Tell me about yourself. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 7107

PROFESSIONAL gent, tall, slim, fifties, public school, interests include travel, music, outdoor sports, seeks lady similar. Photo please to Box No 6371

SINGLE professional gentleman, 32, seeks refined young lady 28-38 for friendship & possible romance. N/S preferred. Many varied interests. Leics/Cambs. Please Reply to Box No 7100

TALL, humorous, kind, tolerant, intellectual type, aged 46, professional job, enjoys exercising his mind and body, n/s, WLTM attractive and intelligent lady under 40 with or without children for possibly lasting relationship. London or South East. Photo appreciated. Box 7069

TO THE Manor Born - are you? Romantic, stylish, caring and handsome country gentleman seeks a special lady. I am 37, athletic, well designed, intelligent, very successful, no ties, good company and eligible. I like the countryside, theatre, antiques, horses and the coast. Are you attractive, slim, 25-33 & share similar interests. More importantly do you have a good heart? Middle England or further. Photo plse. Box 7024

UNCONVENTIONAL, sparkling, amusing, stimulating lady sought by motorbike riding tax accountant, 33, tall, rugby player build, considered attractive, full social life, lots of friends, but who needs his life shaken up. Could it be you? Guilford based. Photograph appreciated. Box No 7042

WELL balanced bloke, warm affectionate and secure seeks male (36-58?) who also lives/loves London. Please Reply to Box No 6999

WEST COUNTRY professional male 42, sincere, romantic, tall, seeks slim, attractive lady, 30's, for country life, dining, travel and sharing life. Please reply with photo to Box No 6962

YOUNGER man, 29, slim, presentable, educated, seeks attractive older woman. London/ Berks. Photo plse. No 7069

ACADEMIC retired, 60, very fit, wide interests, W. London WLTM similar male for country walks & days out. Please Reply with photo to Box No 7468

GUY 30, humorous, fun, gay, 5'11", 11 stone, brown hair, huge personality, Cotswolds/ London, seeks Grant Mitchell/ Gary Barlow cross. You're tall, dark, handsome, loving & caring, just like me. Lets leave 2 sets of footprints on the beach of life. ALA. Photo plse. Box 7366

GAY male, 43, graduate, discreet and a warm happy person seeks male for a new direction in life through a special relationship. Reply to Box No 6984

GAY, active many years with drawing, writing & music down west country, but often travels, seeks like mind. Please Reply to Box No 7112

ACADEMIC retired, 60, very fit, wide interests, W. London WLTM similar male for country walks & days out. Please Reply with photo to Box No 7468

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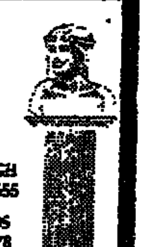

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SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

THE TIMES cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be.

We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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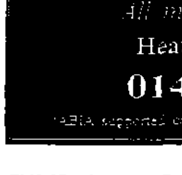

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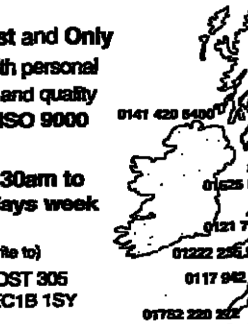

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The good times are back for owners of small hotels. **Cheryl Taylor** on opportunities at home and abroad

Bed, breakfast and a healthy profit

If *running a hotel has* ever appealed to you, now might be the time to buy, with prices beginning to edge upwards and the market showing signs of recovery. Despite unpredictable weather so far this summer, the English Tourist Board has forecast a busy season for the domestic holiday trade and hoteliers report that bookings are up on last year.

Other signs also indicate that moving into the hotel field makes good business sense. Hotel profits in the UK rose by 9 per cent in 1995 compared with the previous year, and occupancies reached a ten-year high, according to a report last month by BDO Hospitality Consulting, the hotel, tourism and leisure arm of accountants BDO Stoy Hayward.

The occupancy rate last year was 7.1 per cent up on 1994 and 20 per cent higher than in 1992. Room rates are also up by 5.8 per cent on average — 8.6 per cent in London — with more growth forecast this year.

Hotels are selling well, with agents reporting increased demand in many parts of the country. There is, however, a shortage of quality hotels up to £500,000 in prime locations such as London, Bath, Cheltenham, Harrogate, Edinburgh, the Cotswolds, south Devon and the Lake District, which is pushing up prices.

Hotels in central London are drawing large numbers of prospective purchasers and prices are rising fast. According to the latest European hotel valuation index from Hospitality Valuation Services, the property consultants and valuers, London has seen the highest rise in values of all European cities — 16.8 per cent in 1995 over the previous year — reflecting the high level of demand in the capital.

Small hotels on the fringe of London are also in demand, according to Patrick Ryan of specialist business agent Christie & Co. In Harrow, the 43-bedroom Grimsdyke Hotel, in a dilapidated condition with 54 years left on the lease, on offer recently at £750,000, went 10 per cent over the guide price with 20 bidders.

Christie & Co reports a high demand for prime hotels up to £1 million in Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Kent. Chilston Park, a 38-bedroom country house hotel near Maidstone in Kent, attracted six bidders and went 7 per cent over the guide price of £2 million.

Hotel and licensed property specialist Robert Barry and Co has a waiting list of 300 prospective purchasers looking for well-located B&B hotels costing from £250,000 to £400,000 in the Cheltenham area alone.

Alastair Murchie of Robert Barry says that Milton House, an eight-bedroom hotel in Cheltenham which recently sold for more than the guide price of £300,000, attracted 50 prospective purchasers. Ermewood House, a country hotel with seven bedrooms near Ivybridge in Devon, on the market in January, sold within three weeks for the asking price of £295,000, with three bidders.

In the West Country, Knight Frank's Exeter office reports increased activity in the market for hotels priced at between £500,000 and £750,000. Buyers from abroad, particularly from Hong Kong, are attracted by English country house hotels with up to 12 acres and up to 18 bedrooms.

Easton Court, a 15th-century thatched country house hotel with eight bedrooms, near Chagford in Devon, sold within weeks to an Australian family coming into the hotel trade, at 10 per cent more than the guide price of £350,000, through Knight Frank.

Nick Sweeney, of Savills Hotels and Leisure, says that hotels are making better profits thanks to the buoyant tourist trade and greater efficiency. Banks have become more willing to lend on them, which is stimulating the market.

Patrick Ryan of Christie & Co says there is a growing demand from newcomers, typically in their forties or fifties, taking early retirement or redundancy from middle-management careers. "People are far more hard-headed about setting up a hotel business than used to be the case," he says.

In Scotland, too, prime country house hotels are in demand — although prices are still generally lower than in England. In the Highlands you could buy a period hotel with up to 12 bedrooms and an acre or two of parkland from about £250,000.

On the Isle of Skye, the two-star/four crown Uig Hotel, with 18 en suite bedrooms, bar-restaurant and owner's house in three acres, can be yours for £275,000 through Robert Barry and Co. Or the Golf Hotel, a 22-bedroom baronial property at Elie on the Fife coast near St Andrews, is for sale at £550,000 through Christie and Co.

For £350,000 you could buy the Muchrach Lodge Hotel, a 14-bedroom Victorian Highland lodge in six acres above the River Dulnain at Grantown-on-Spey, through Robert Barry & Co.

Down in Somerset, Robert Barry is asking £150,000 for the Old Manor Farmhouse, a seven-bedroom licensed B&B hotel near Taunton. In the Cotswolds, the asking price for the Conygree Gate Country House Hotel at Kingham, which has ten bedrooms, a restaurant, owner's flat and cottage, is £360,000.

Prices slip in west Wales, where the centuries-old stone Ty Mawr Country Hotel, with five bedrooms and an acre of garden beside the Brechfa forest, is on offer at £240,000 through Christie & Co.

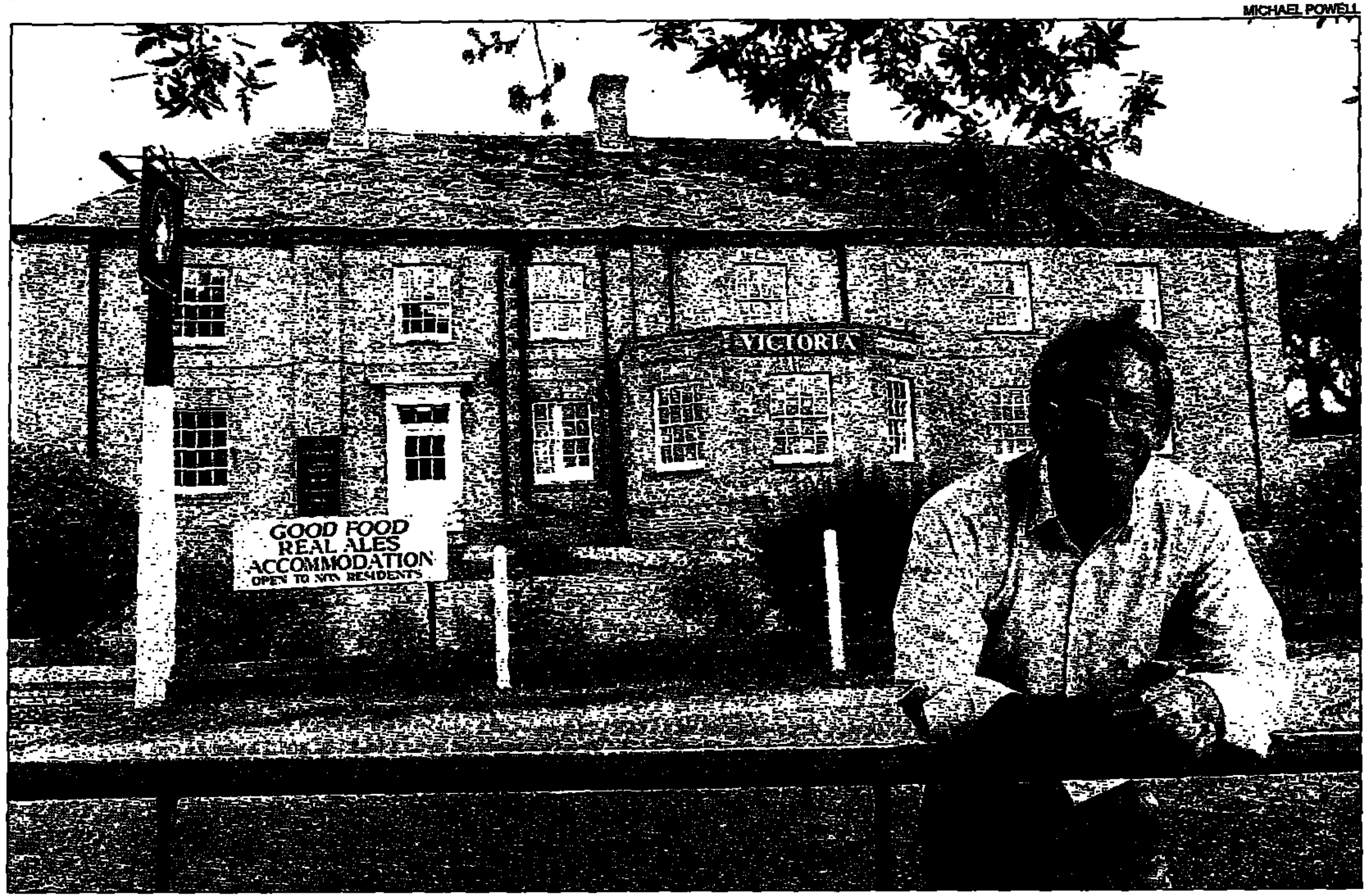
Moving upmarket, Coombe Park Hotel, a Grade II listed 17th-century country house hotel with four acres in Exmoor National Park, is for sale at £400,000 through Knight Frank. It has ten bedrooms, a dining room, three reception rooms, owner's accommodation, a self-contained flat and stabling.

If £600,000 is in your range, the 14th-century Tytherleigh Cot Hotel in the village of Chardstock, near Axminster, comes with 18 bedrooms, a restaurant, bar and lounge, two-bedroom cottage and three-bedroomed thatched owner's house.

At the top of the market, Savills is looking for offers of around £2.5 million for the Swan hotel, a recently refurbished three star/four crown/two rosette 17th-century hotel at Bibury in the Cotswolds. It has 18 en suite bedrooms, an 80-seater dining room, two lounges, bar, brasserie and conference facilities. The gardens are bordered by the River Coln and the hotel has fishing rights.

- *Christie & Co 0131-557 6666 (Scotland), 0117-974 4566 (Bristol); Robert Barry & Co 01285 641642; Knight Frank 01392 423111; Savills 0171-499 8644; Hamptons 0171-493 8222; Brian A. French (Italy) 0171-284 0114; Sifex (France) 0171-384 1200; Alpine Apartments (France) 01544 388234.*

MICHAEL POWELL



Peter Hoskins outside the Victoria Hotel at Holkham in Norfolk. The lease was granted in exchange for £100,000 to be spent on restoration

NORFOLK

WHEN *Peter Hoskins took* over the 20-year lease on the Victoria Hotel, a Grade II listed 18th-century inn at the entrance to the 3,000-acre *Holkham* estate on the north Norfolk coast, he was taking a gamble. His prospective landlord, the Earl of *Leicester*, agreed to grant the lease in exchange for £100,000 to be spent on restoring the hotel.

Yet when Mr Hoskins moved in last May, there were only three bedrooms suitable for letting. The other five bedrooms were unusable, and a new central heating system needed to be installed. There were just seven bookings for the entire summer period.

"Holkham, with its famous hall and miles of unspoilt sandy beaches, fringed by pine forests, is a unique location. It was an opportunity to create something special. *But there was no* guarantee that it would work," says Mr Hoskins, who previously ran an eight-bedroom hotel in Cambridge.

"Little money had been spent on the hotel for many years, so there was a lot of decorating as well as structural changes to be made, with the installation of en suite bathrooms."

NOW THERE are eight well-appointed bedrooms decorated with pretty *curtains and matching* bedspreads, large, top-quality beds and crisp linen. Each bedroom has its own separate bathroom.

Guests may stay from £60 per couple per night, including a full English breakfast (ring 01328 710469).

The hotel is filled with good furniture and paintings. Fresh *flowers adorn the tables in the* 80-seater restaurant, which overlooks the pine forest and offers traditional, home-cooked Norfolk fare.

The investment of effort has been well rewarded. The Victoria has a good level of bookings for the summer season, and the restaurant is doing three times as much business as it was a year ago. There are plans to extend the restaurant area next year to accommodate families with young children, and to provide more parking spaces.

"We want to be able to cater for everybody," Mr Hoskins says. "These days, running a hotel is a family-orientated business." Above all, it is essential for a country inn to create a relaxed atmosphere where people from all walks of life can enjoy themselves."

Mr Hoskins runs the hotel, bar and restaurant with a staff of 14, including two chefs.

DEVON

IN MARCH 1992, John and Tove Taylor bought Buckland-Tout-Saints, a country house hotel in a Grade II listed Queen Anne manor house, in five acres of landscaped gardens near Kingsbridge in south Devon. They paid £750,000 for the three-star hotel with 14 guest bedrooms, two restaurants, a lounge bar, six staff bedrooms and a self-contained owner's flat.

The Taylors, both in their sixties, had owned a country house hotel in Argyllshire — the Taychreggan on the shores of Loch Awe — for 16 years, which they sold in 1989 when they retired to be nearer to their family in Cerne Abbas, Dorset. Their retirement lasted for just three years.

"We missed everything about hotel life: the work, the worry, the guests and the staff," says Mr Taylor, who could not resist going to see Buckland-Tout-Saints when it was advertised for sale four years ago.

Many of their old guests returned to visit them in their new establishment, and often returned to Buckland as they used to at the Taychreggan. The hotel, which has two restaurants with two AA rosettes for food, employs 12 staff including three chefs, housekeeping staff and a full-time gardener. A double room with en suite bathroom costs £90 per person per night for bed, breakfast and dinner, including early morning tea (ring 01548 853 055).

Buckland-Tout-Saints in Devon is on the market again for £750,000

"Running a country house hotel requires dedication, a good alarm clock and a lot of love," Mr Taylor says.

"Housekeeping plays a vital part, and the quality of service and atmosphere are also important. But it doesn't have to be pompous just because it is a beautiful building, with antiques and pictures around. I like to hear people talking and laughing, it gives the place a lively atmosphere."

NOW THE Taylors' youngest son, George, a partner in their hotel business, has left Buckland to run an inn in Brighton, so the Taylors will retire for a second time. Buckland-Tout-Saints is now back on the market at £750,000, through Knight Frank.

"It was great to see Buckland-Tout-Saints coming to life again. Although we have a superb team, we feel that without George, we cannot do Buckland justice. It is time for someone younger to take the reins," Mr Taylor says.

ITALY

TWELVE years ago, Suffolk couple Sarah Townsend, an art teacher and painter, and her husband Johnny, a stockbroker, bought Il Castagno, a 200-year-old three-bedroom stone farmhouse in 25 acres in Tuscany, which they used for holidays.

Their farmhouse, which cost £60,000 plus another £150,000 to restore, soon became a popular holiday haven for their friends — so they decided to buy another, larger property in the same area and rent out Il Castagno to provide an income (up to £2,500 a week in July and August, with maid service and gardener).

They found Il Bacchino, a 17th-century hillside villa in steeply terraced gardens, approached by a narrow mountain road near the medieval town of Cortona. Carved in stone above the front door is an ancient message: ***Angusta domus utinam bonis repleat amicis*** (may this humble house be filled to overflowing with good friends).

When the Townsends first saw the sunbleached stone villa, built by the church as a retreat for the cardinals, it had not been lived in for 12 years. The roof had fallen in, several pipes had burst, the living-room floor was strewn with plaster and there was no electricity or mains water supply.

"Everything was covered in mould because of the humidity, and the garden was overgrown." Mrs Townsend says. "But it was a magical place, with the scent of jasmine wafting on the breeze and a view to die for. We had to buy it," she says.

They paid £150,000 for the 12-roomed house, which has vaulted wine cellars and its own chapel, and set about restoring it. Because Il Bacchino is a listed building, permission had to be obtained for everything.

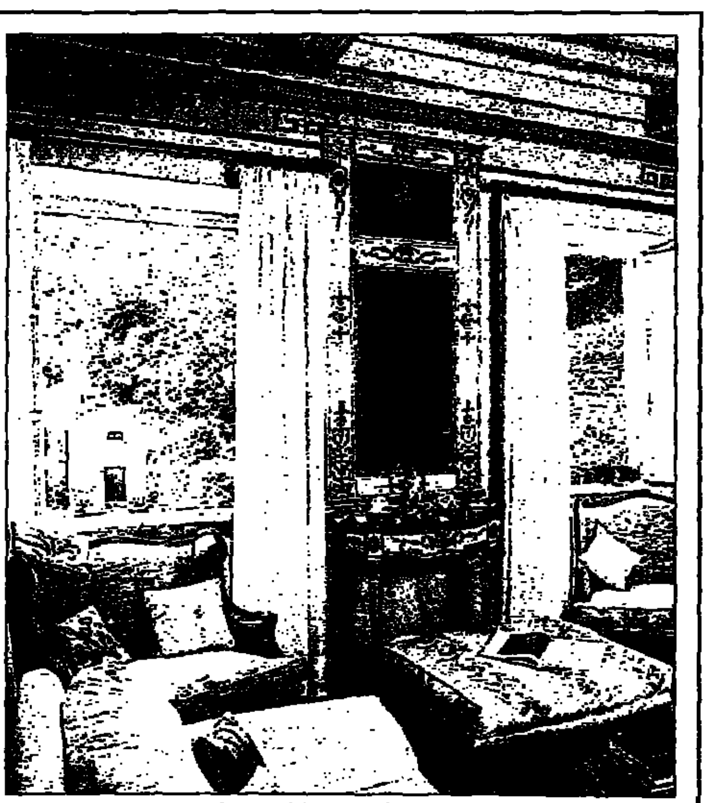
Working with local craftsmen, they repaired the original terracotta tiled floors, brick and beamed ceilings and ancient frescoes. Electricity had to be laid on and a new well dug, the drains needed replacing and a septic tank had to be installed. Repairs to the roof, replumbing, rewiring, replastering, a modern kitchen and several bathrooms added to the cost.

TWO YEARS later, in 1988, the Townsends moved to Tuscany. Mrs Townsend left her teaching job and they sold their home in Suffolk to pay for the restoration of Il Bacchino: almost £500,000. And there was still work to be done — a pergola for the garden, a computerised watering system and a mosaic swimming pool. "The money had run out, so I decided to advertise for paying guests," says Mrs Townsend. "The response was overwhelming."

Il Bacchino has since grown into an exclusive Tuscan guest house. The five bedrooms, all with bathrooms, are filled with antique furniture, paintings, fresh flowers and crisp linen, and are booked from March until November at £100 a night for B&B (ring 00 39 575 603 284).

Now the couple have bought an abandoned medieval *palazzo* near Citta di Castello in Umbria, which they plan to convert into a hotel. The 20-roomed ruin cost £100,000 but they expect to spend around £1 million to restore it to its former glory.

Meanwhile, Il Bacchino and Il Castagno are for sale through Knight Frank, to fund the renovation work on the *palazzo*.



Il Bacchino, transformed from ruin to lucrative small hotel

Keeping a welcome in the vineyard

Prospects for hoteliers abroad from Burgundy and Tuscany to Moscow

On continental Europe, rural areas of France and Italy appeal most to the British contemplating setting up a small hotel or bed & breakfast business. Rather than buying off-the-peg hotels, prospective purchasers often seek properties with scope for *chambre d'hôtes* (bed & breakfast) and *gites* (cottages), particularly in southwest France where the climate is warm and *prices are reasonable*.

An imposing manor house in a few acres of parkland, suitable for a small country hotel, with up to eight bedrooms and outbuildings that would convert into *gites*, can be picked up for between £150,000 and £250,000 in the Gers, on the edge of the Midi Pyrenees.

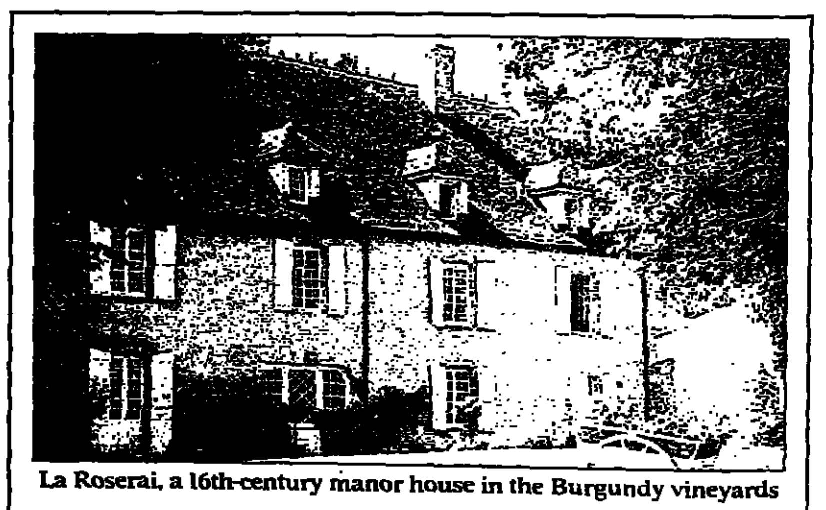
Other popular areas include Burgundy, made more accessible by the new fast train, where you could buy a detached six-bedroom stone house in a wine-growing area, with good potential, for less than £100,000. In the French Alps, British-run holiday chalets are also proving very successful. The price of alpine chalets is rising, but you could still find one in good condition with up to ten bedrooms for about £200,000.

Tuscany continues to attract a *steady stream* of well-heeled British buyers willing to restore rural stone ruins that have remained untouched for centuries. Prices are not cheap: the closer to Florence, the more expensive the property. Expect to pay at least £250,000 for a habitable stone farmhouse with five bedrooms and scope for a guest house.

Prices are lower in *Le* Marche, southeast of Tuscany, *where Brian French & Asso*ciates is asking £200,000 for a restored six-bedroom *farm*house near the medieval hill town of Ascoli Piceno.

Majorca is also attracting British buyers in search of traditional buildings to turn into upmarket hotels. Hamp*tons International, for in*stance, is asking £2 million for *S'Heretat, a restored 300-year*-old farmhouse on a hilltop in the northwest of the island, which has 48 rooms.

In Moscow, Knight Frank has a portfolio of 200 hotels worth around £650 million, ranging from 100 to 3,200 rooms, including the refurbished five-star National on Red Square and the 1,000-roomed Ukraina on the River Moskva. Many hotels require renovation or reconstruction.



La Roserai, a 16th-century manor house in the Burgundy vineyards

FRANCE

SEVEN years ago Roz Binns and her husband John, an airline pilot, sold a plot at the side of their house, a four-bedroom stone cottage near Wellingborough in Northamptonshire, and bought La Roseraie, a 16th-century manor house near Macon in Burgundy. They paid £70,000, including legal fees, for the imposing seven-bedroom house in four acres of parkland.

"*Originally* we were *looking for a* second home in Burgundy, but we fell in love with the area and decided to buy a larger house and try our hand at a bed and breakfast business," says Mrs Binns, who gave up her job as an air stewardess on long-haul flights to run the enterprise.

"The house was perfect for our project, being *within easy reach* of the international airport at Dijon *and close to the TGV station* at Monchanin, with connections to Paris in 85 minutes."

They sold their home in Britain and moved to France in 1990, but spent half their first year getting the house into shape after years of neglect. The roof needed attention, the drains had to be replaced and the building needed rewiring, replumbing, redecorating and several new windows. They also added a *gite*, converting an attached cottage into self-contained accommodation *which they let to holidaymakers*.

"We reckoned the cost of the *renovation to be roughly the same as* the purchase price," Mrs Binns says. "*The final bill came to £130,000*, almost double our original estimate, which meant *selling our UK home to* foot the bill. Renovating a house in France is expensive: a tin of paint costs £30 and labour costs are high."

They applied through Gites de France for a grant from the local authority, which paid them Fr36,000 (about £5,000) to set up the *chambre d'hôtes* (bed & breakfast) business.

LA ROSERAIE, now in its sixth season, is included *in several Gites* de France publications, including the coveted *Chambre d'hôtes de prestige*. The six guest bedrooms, each with bathroom en suite, are fully booked for most of the summer. Visitors pay £50 per night per couple for B&B (ring 00 33 85 24 67 82).

Mrs Binns now speaks fluent *French and runs* the business single-handedly for much of the year, while her *husband* is *away flying private* jets for Arab businessmen. "It is like running a *jumbo jet with fewer* people for breakfast," she says. "The summer months, *May to October*, are very busy but the rest of the year is dead.

"It helps if you speak French. I didn't at the start *and it was hard*."

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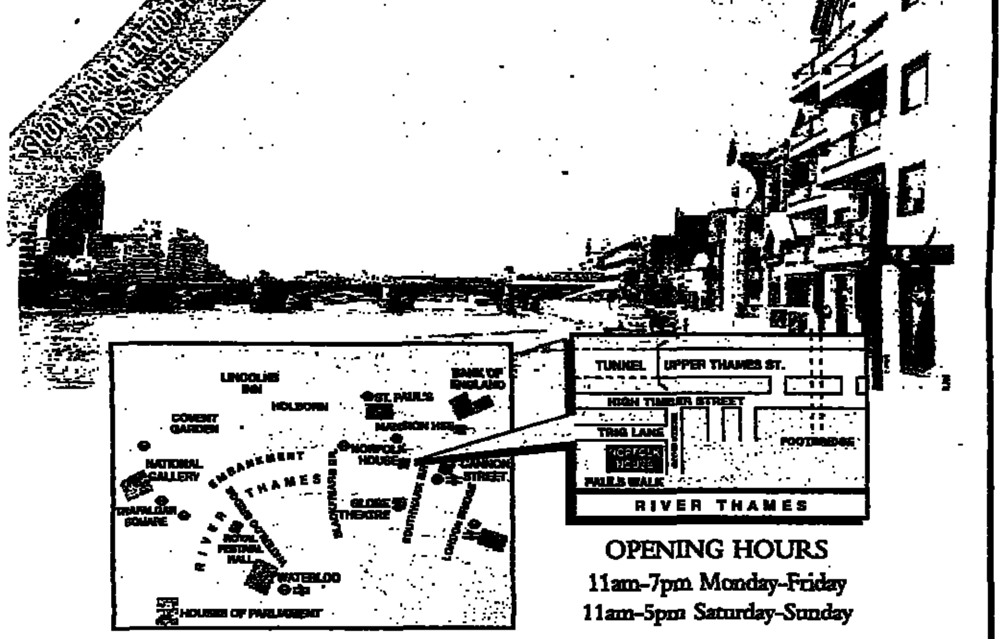

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Abbeville village, lovely Victorian family house, 4 beds, 2 baths, through recep. Large kitchen/dining rm, gch, many orig features. Garden. 5 mins tube/common.
£219,950ono.
Tel: 0181 675 6167/0802 613760.

LONDON PROPERTY

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19 MINS TO CITY SE4
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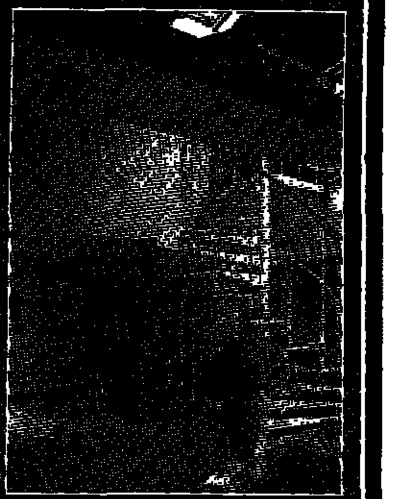
An exquisite development of only ten warehouse apartments in a fine fronted period building, offered in a choice of shell, part or fully finished form.

Patent House



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Financial Times 15/16th June 1996

Single, Double & Triple Deck Living

PATENT HOUSE, LONDON E14
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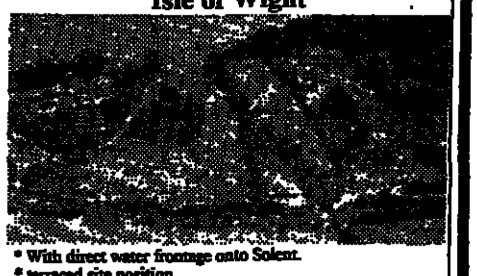

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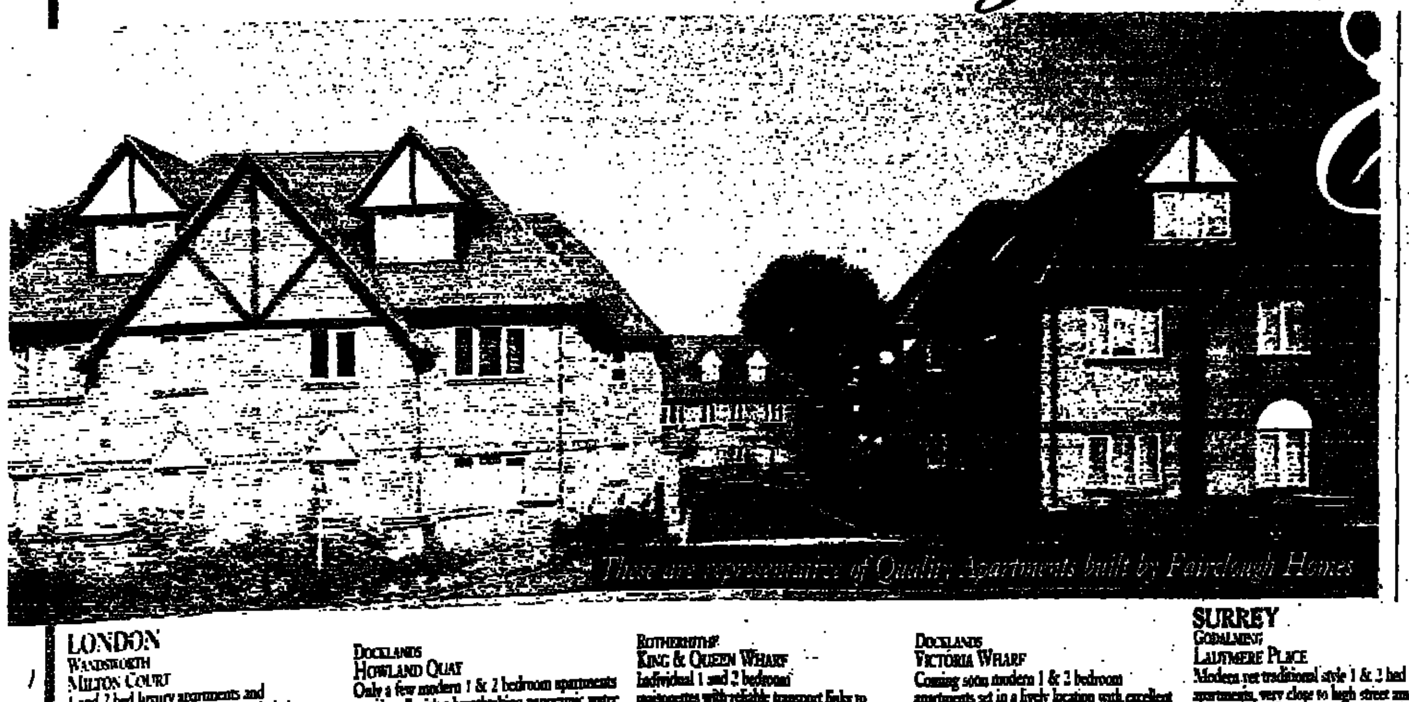

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Period thatched house in unspoilt village street; 3/4 bedrooms, bathroom, downstairs WC suitable for conversion to 2nd bathroom; 2 recep, kitchen; walk-in larder, delightful garden, garaging; close village & country town shops; 15 mins Charlbury station (40 mins Paddington); 30 mins Oxford; 60-90 mins London by road. £285,000.
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Picturesque village of
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Detached Grade II listed 1650 Essex farmhouse. Inglenook, exposed beams, 5 bedrooms, 2 luxury bathrooms, 3 receptions, poggenpohl fitted kitchen, study, utility room, central heating, 2 garages, in/out driveway, rural views. £300,000.
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Fine elevated position, superb South Downs views. Large lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. CH, DG, Dble Garage. Half acre beautiful garden
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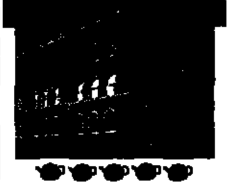

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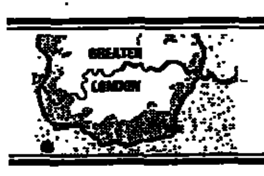

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Detatched Victorian Drovers cottage on the edge of Alice Holt forest. 3/4 Beds, 3 reception, ff/kitchen (hand made units). Secluded garden. Detatched garage. Prof designers own home (no expence spared).
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ISLE OF WIGHT. Offers in excess of £260,000. A small residential farm in all about 16.04 acres (6.493 hectares) comprising 5 bedroom farmhouse, stabling, granary, outhouses, storage barn, pasture and woodland. Contact Sam Biles, James Harris Chartered Surveyors 01983 827744.

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Offers around £95K.
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NR FARINGDON Well presented handsome small country house in attractive village setting. Rec hall, drwg rm, din rm, kit/bkfst rm, cloakrm, 5 beds, bathm & shwr. Sun terrace, gdns, garage with studio. £560,000 Butler Sherborn (01993) 822325

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Channel front with spectacular views
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Must sell underpriced at £120,000.
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Idyllic setting, unspoilt views. Peace *& quiet but easy access rail &* amenities. 2 rec, 2 beds + annexe 3rd bed/office bath, shower/utility, conservatory, garage, oil C/H. Beams, Inglenook, Rayburn. Southwest facing gardens, pond, bluebell woods, 2 acres in all.
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Details 01580 830467

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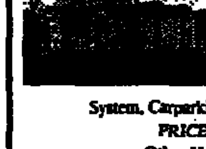

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Sorting the buyers from the browsers

Rachel Kelly on the problems for sellers in sifting serious inquiries from time-wasting house tourists

Heard the one about the man with the turbocharged Bentley and a young lady in a checked headscarf in tow? The story is legendary in estate agency circles. The young blood visited a number of country estates. He was endlessly enthusiastic and knew his Purdeys from his pergolas. Yet he never bought so much as an acre.

"It turned out that he had borrowed the car for a test drive and was trying to impress his young fiancée by pretending to buy houses he could not possibly afford," says Patrick Ramsay of agents Knight Frank.

That was a decade ago, yet "phantom buyers" are still a nuisance.

The much-heralded market recovery has helped to reduce the problem. Tim Wright, from Savills in Kensington, says: "In a relatively strong market, buyers are more certain, and because there is less to choose from, they have to make up their minds fast."

At present, sales are still well down on the levels seen in the late 1980s. Figures released last month by the Land Registry show that 787,337 homes were sold last year, less than half the number sold annually — more than two million — at the peak of the market.

Although the market has reawakened to some extent, agents remain desperate to shift houses. And in such a climate, they can be less wary about checking potential buyers.

The worst affected vendors are those with well-known names and extremely desirable houses which many people, inspired by little more than curiosity, wish to snoop around. Agents call this "the *Hello!* factor". The home of the late Sir David Lean, Sun Wharf in Docklands, recently attracted its fair share of such dubious prospective buyers.

Women, apparently, can be particularly prone to time-wasting. "Typically, a wife decides that she wants a bigger house, or wishes to buy rather than rent," says David Forbes of Chesterfield. "She will look at hundreds of houses without having discussed it with her husband. Then we find that the husband has no intention of investing more in property, or is about to move abroad."

Savills refers to *pseudologica fantastica* — the psychiatric term for delusions of grandeur — in connection with such unwelcome house tourists, and suggests that name-droppers are the worst offenders of all.

Sifting out the time-wasters while taking care not to alienate genuine potential buyers is a delicate art which some agents make no attempt to master. After all, looks alone can be an unreliable guide to a potential buyer's sincerity. "He may look as if he hasn't got two pennies to rub together, but in fact have £1 million in the bank," says John Gibson of Savills.

"Everyone who walks through the door must be treated at face value," says Linda Beaney of the London agents Beaney Pearce. "Often it is a combination of instinct and years of experience which gives you some insight into buyers."

Conrad Payne of Cluttons' Canterbury office agrees. "Some buyers may not look serious at the outset because their inquiries are so vague," he says. "They have no preconceived idea of what they want to buy. Funnily enough, they can be the ones who get more easily 'converted' when they view a suitable property."

One type of property, however, seems to be relatively immune from the phantom buyer: the remote Highland estate. Colin Strang Steel of Knight Frank says: "For most people, especially those living south of the border, it is necessary to set aside at least a day in order to visit an estate. That tends to deter those who are not interested."

WHAT TO DO

The best way to avoid time-wasters is to:

- **Check that your agent weeds out casual callers by asking for names and addresses, how many other houses they have visited, which other agents they have used, how long have they been looking and how they plan to finance any purchase.**
- **Suggest that the agent charges for brochures. Colin Strang Steel of Knight Frank's office in Edinburgh, for instance, charged £20 for the 27-page illustrated brochure of Beaufort Castle estate.**
- **Ask your agent to conduct viewings when you are out, as far as possible. Make it clear that organising the timing of visits is their problem, not yours. You are paying them to solve the problem.**
- **Consider an open house on Saturday — the American system whereby everybody comes round on the same day.**

CASE STUDY

No buyers yet: Ian Downing's three-bedroom cottage

IAN DOWNING has been trying to sell his house in Worcestershire for almost three years. Heaven's Gate is a three-bedroomed cottage between Bromyard and Tenbury Wells, a 45-minute drive from Birmingham. It has more than an acre of garden and orchard, and the asking price is £149,500. But Mr Downing has now seen so many time-wasters, he has taken it off the market.

"When I put it on the market in June with the agents Andrew Grant in Worcester, I told them I was looking for an early sale," says Mr Downing. "I asked for completion before the end of October because I planned to go to Rome for the winter. 'Lucky for some,' laughed the estate agent. ' leave it to us.'

"That conversation took place in June 1993. The agents have arranged a total of 20 viewers — 'prospective purchasers' is how they refer to them. But in my view, most of them have simply been doing a spot of sightseeing.

"The first couple were hours late. They hadn't got lost, they were just touring the area. Had they sold their own house? No. Was their house up for sale? No. I soon realised the truth. I'd spent my Saturday waiting for tourists.

"Time-wasters typically consist of 'eager beaver' types such as the man who breezed in madly enthusiastic, wanting to discuss every detail. His wife trailed behind us, moaning loudly at intervals. After he had finished crawling into every nook and cranny and exploring all corners of the garden, asking endless interested questions ... 'Ah, no, sorry. It won't do for us. You see, we've inherited a lot of very bulky antique furniture which we wouldn't want to part with. It simply wouldn't fit in your living room.'

"Other time-wasters were those who had not made an appointment, but would I mind if they had a quick look? A quick look it was, in one case — the whole house within three minutes. As we were about to go into the garden, the husband asked if he might pop into the bathroom.

"I waited with his wife outside. After 15 minutes, he returned and they both drove off. On inspection of the bathroom, it was obvious that my prospective buyer had been reading my book. A thought struck me: had he only called in to use the lavatory?"

The house is now temporarily off the market. The agent, Andrew Grant, comments that he sells between 700 and 800 houses every year through his offices, and "I find that if a client reviews the situation, including the asking price, from time to time, a sale can be achieved."

The agents are suing Mr Downing for unpaid advertising costs of £750. Meanwhile, Mr Downing refuses to pay because he claims that the agents mishandled his sale and lost him money. He is counter-claiming and the case is shortly going to the county court.

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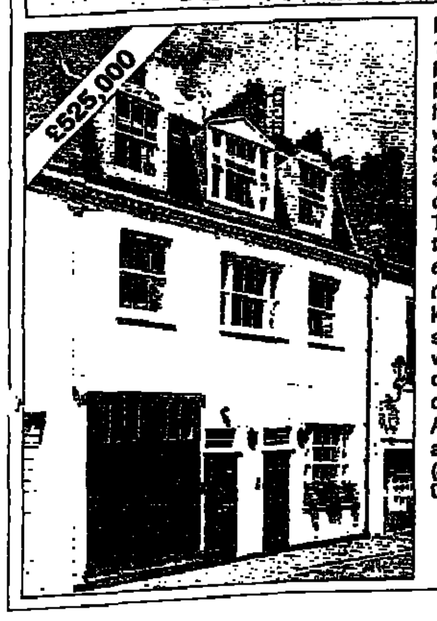
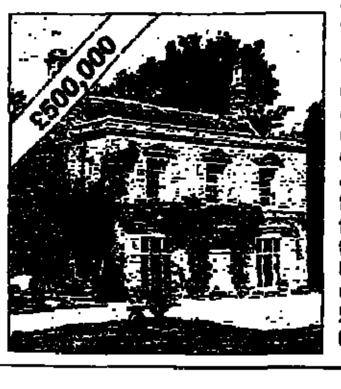


LONDON
138 and 138A, Pavilion Road, SW1. Modernised mews house within walking distance of Sloane Square, with a medical surgery on the ground floor. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms (one en suite), large reception room and kitchen. Surgery, shower-room, waiting room and office. Garage, off-street parking. About £525,000 for a 52-year lease (John D. Wood 0171-352 1484).

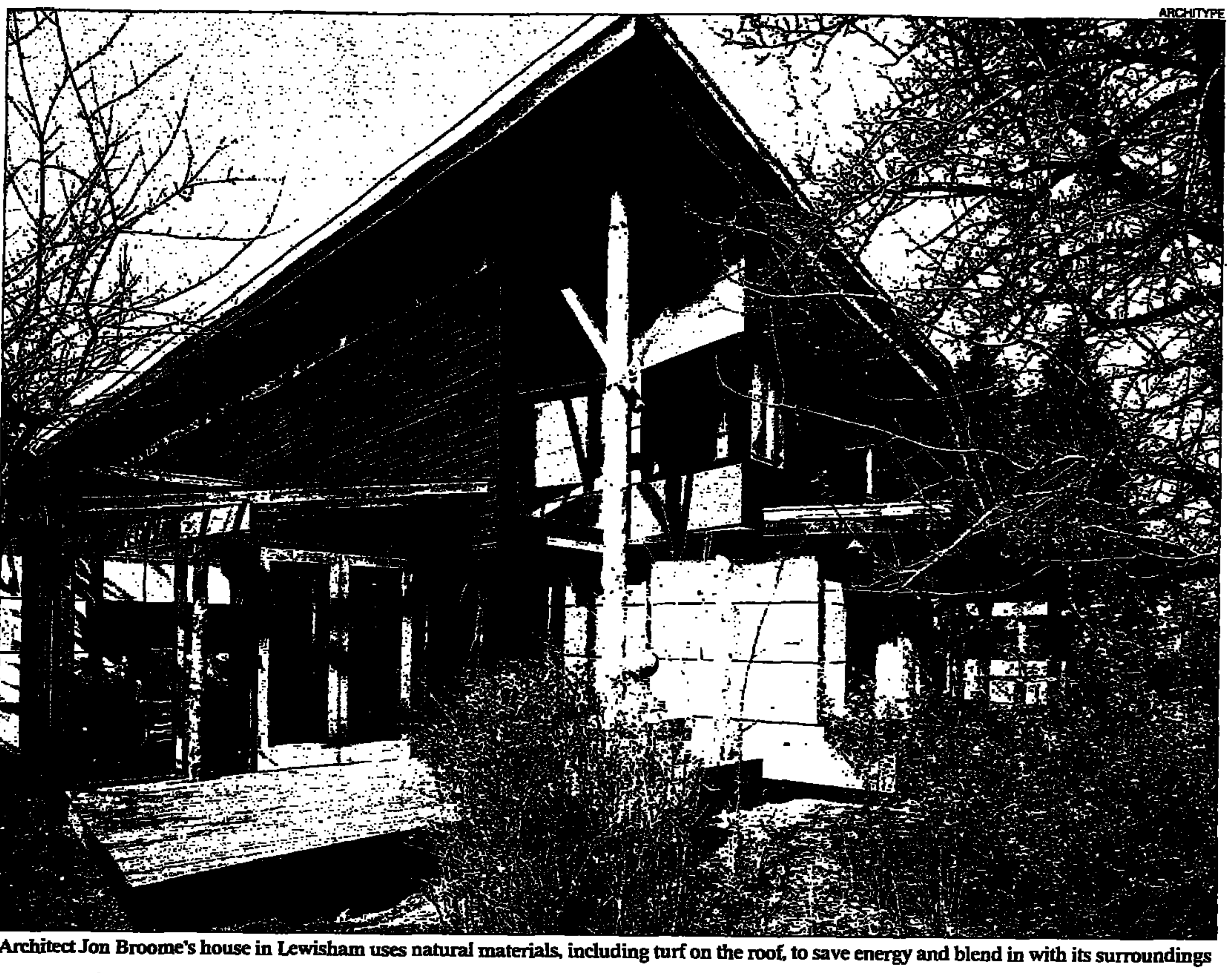
CHESHIRE
Hough Hall, Hough, Near Nantwich. Grade II* listed 17th-century country house with self-contained coach house and garaging for four cars, in four acres of wooded gardens. Eight bedrooms, four bathrooms (two en suite), three reception rooms, sun lounge, study, kitchen/breakfast area, utility and butlers pantry. About £550,000 (Jackson-Stops & Staff, 01244 328361).



SOMERSET
Drayton Manor, Drayton, Near Langport. Grade II listed Georgian Manor house on the edge of a village with a detached three-bedroom cottage, in six acres of garden and paddock. Five bedrooms, three bathrooms (one en suite), two dressing rooms, box room, three reception rooms, kitchen, breakfast room, cloakroom, office and laundry. About £500,000 (Michael de Pelet, 01935 812236).

CHERYL TAYLOR

A wooden wonder inspired by one man, constructed by another in his spare time



Architect Jon Broome's house in Lewisham uses natural materials, including turf on the roof, to save energy and blend in with its surroundings

The house that Jon built

Pioneering ideas by the architect Walter Segal for easy-to-build houses with timber frames have taken root in the social housing sector since his death in 1985. But now they are blossoming at the exclusive end of the property spectrum too: one of his disciples has built the biggest and most luxurious Segal-method house yet in Lewisham, southeast London.

Jon Broome, 47, an architect formerly employed by Lewisham Borough Council, worked with Segal for several years and adapted his approach for housing association projects in which prospective tenants built their homes with their own hands. He knew the approach worked, even for those with no previous building experience — so when Mr Broome needed a new home for himself and his family, he opted for self-build.

The result is a striking five-bedroom house on a quarter-acre site. The trunks of Douglas fir trees are incorporated into the structure to harmonise with the trees that surround the house, and a turfed roof helps to keep the heat in.

Although Mr Broome continued to work four days a week as a director of the architectural firm Architype while building his house with the help of a carpenter, the project took just two-and-a-half years and £110,000 to complete.

"It was hard work holding down a job and being the designer, structural engineer and project manager, sourcing materials and paying for it all," he says. "In the middle of it all, we had our second baby. But it was worth it."

His high-spec home is a far cry from the first Segal house, a small Swiss ski lodge designed nearly 60 years before by the German-Jewish architect who emigrated to Britain before the war, and in 1961 used a similar approach to build a wooden bungalow as a temporary family home in the garden of a house in Hampstead which he was renovating.

Mr Segal assembled timber frames on site, then raised them as the load-bearing mainstay of the structure before slotting in walls, floors and the roof. People admired the result and he received commissions to design similar buildings. Then one couple hit on the idea of building their house themselves.

Segal, always an egalitarian, liked the self-build idea and saw its potential. His approach used standard components but involved no bricklaying or plastering, the so-called "wet" trade skills. Foundations were usually simple concrete pads on which each wooden support rested at existing ground levels, making the method ideal for sloping or uneven sites.

Mr Broome says that Segal houses should also stand the test of time, despite being built largely of wood. "They should last for 300 years," he says. "Many of Britain's oldest buildings are made of timber — wattle-and-daub houses, for example."

Although Walter Segal designed the first self-build schemes in Lewisham in 1975, his ideas were slow to take off during his lifetime. After his death, Jon Broome and others set up the Walter Segal Self-build Trust, a charity to promote Mr Segal's ideas, which have slowly become more popular with housing associations.

Now, 150 Segal-inspired houses have been built around the country, 49 of them on three housing association sites in Brighton. Most were self-built. Architype has specialised in working on such schemes, incorporating ecologically sound principles. But Jon Broome, who already lived in a Segal-inspired home which he had built himself, needed more room for his family and longed to embark on a more ambitious "green" design. Eventually he and his partner, Rona Nicholson, found a suitable site that was part of an orchard.

"These buildings fit into the landscape without destroying it, while a conventional developer will move in and flatten the site," Mr Broome says. "Because there are virtually no foundations, you can build these houses very close to trees. Grass roofs, which anchor the waterproof roof membrane, also relate well to the environment.

"Energy conservation is important, so we have double-glazed high-performance windows, a condensing boiler, a passive solar conservatory that helps to heat the house, controlled ventilation and thick insulation made from recycled newspapers sandwiched into the walls.

A Segal-style self-built house in Woolwich, southeast London

"Once you reduce the amount of energy consumed in heating a building, the amount that goes into constructing it assumes a greater significance. So our timber travels from Wales, including the larch used to face the building, and we avoided plastics. Wherever we could, for example in paints, we used products that substitute natural oils for chemicals."

The high central section of the new building contains the kitchen and dining room, surrounded by the other rooms, including a studio, living room and bedrooms.

"Inside there is a lot of exposed wood and it feels North American," Mr Broome says. "One advantage of building like this is that because none of the walls are load-bearing, you can make some of it up as you go along. Once the basic structure is up, you can decide how you will use the space."

How does the construction cost compare with conventional building methods? The Segal Trust's official line is that it is no cheaper, but that savings are made on labour costs and by cutting out the middleman — the builder. But an analysis by the developers Rosehaugh Stanhope suggests the method can be a third cheaper than conventional building, and cheaper than buying kits. A three-bed house would cost about £34,000 to build at this year's prices.

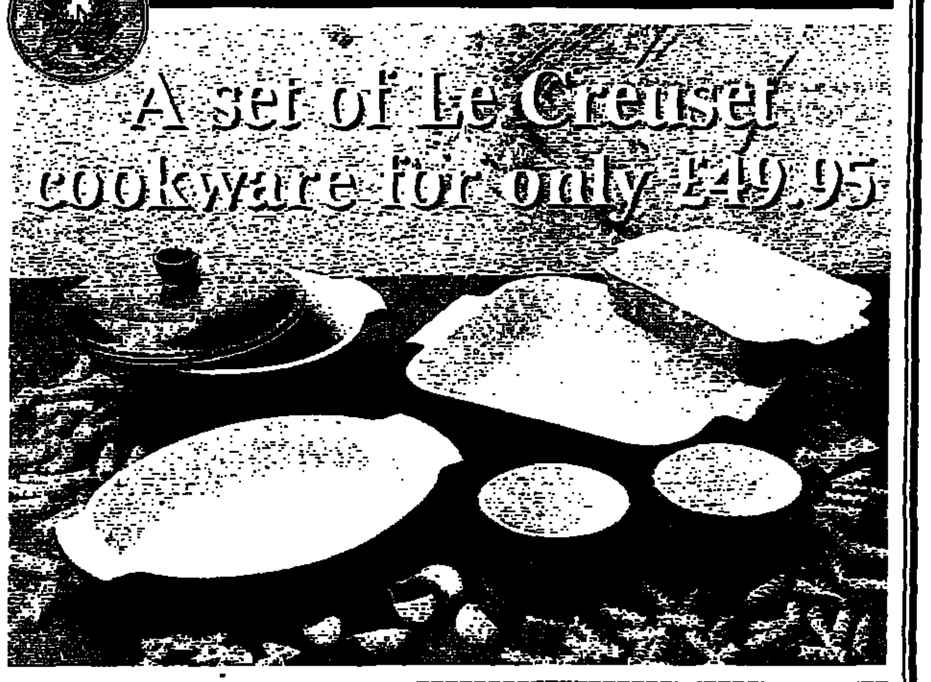
What would Mr Segal himself have thought of Mr Broome's house? "I think he would have loved it," says trustee Brian Richardson, a retired Lewisham Council architect.

"He never stopped changing his own approach, so he would have expected us to go on developing new ideas in the same tradition."

But Mr Broome is less sure. "He was a man of modest personal desires and our place is big," he says. "I think he would regard it as over the top. But we love it."

CHRISTINE WEBB

- *Architype 0171-403 2889; Walter Segal Self-build Trust 0171-388 9582.*
- *Recommended reading:* The Self-Build Book *by Brian Richardson and Jon Broome. Green Books, £15.* Out of the Woods *by Pat Borer and Cindy Harris, £12.50, CAT Publications.*



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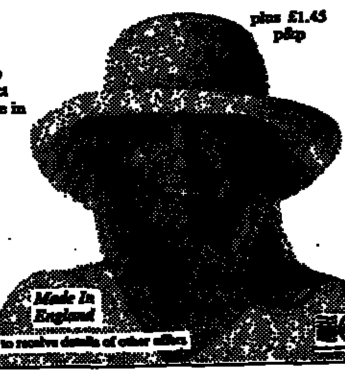

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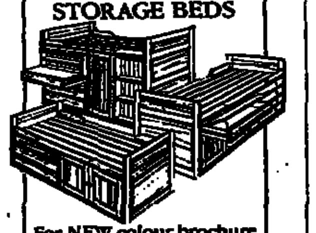

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By JOANNE GLOVER

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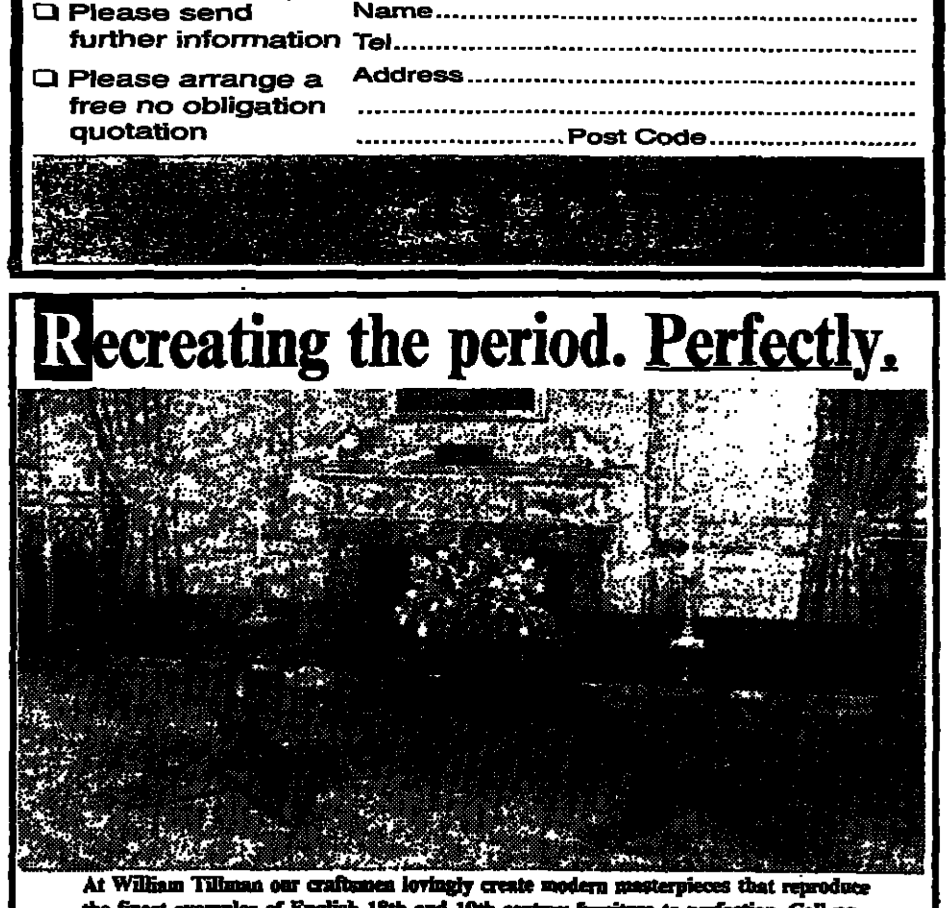

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How to buy peace on long family journeys

The smart parents' guide to keeping the backseat brigade quietly occupied

"Get a nanny," came the weary reply when I canvassed parents about the most effective ways to occupy children on long journeys. "Failing that, dope them." But what if you do not wish to attract the attention of the social services and cannot afford a 19-year-old Australian with endless enthusiasm to live in the backseat of your car? What amusements can be bought to engross children in cars, on boats, on planes? "Stories on tape" was the unanimous third-best suggestion from parents. "Crisps," said the children.

The drawback to listening to stories on a car radio is that it is a communal activity. But such is the choice and quality of taped stories that it is no hardship for an adult to listen in. Any Roald Dahl should keep the whole family company in rapt attention down the motorway, and the five books of *The Chronicles of Narnia* could see you down as far as the South of France.

If parental choice has any sway, the BBC's Young Collection offers a comforting selection of stories read by actors: *Ballet Shoes* read by Harriet Walter, *The Jungle Book* with Freddie Jones and Eartha Kitt, *The Wind in the Willows*. But even Alan Bennett reading *Winnie the Pooh* can pall after the nth hearing, at which point you might wish to invest in a personal stereo.

The horribly named and coloured My First Sony costs about £30 but has an automatic volume limiter to protect small eardrums, as well as parental sensibilities.

Also recommended are the Biblios of original *Jackanory* soundtracks, which include *Stories for Children by Oscar Wilde* read by Alec McCowen and *Lizzie Dripping and the Witch* read by Patricia Routledge. You could also record your own story tape. One mother who has done so says there is nothing that engages her children (aged seven and four) so much as a tape of her reading their favourite stories, singing songs and telling jokes, adding personal interjections such as: "You'll like this one, Tom."

This kind of parental customisation is the key to keeping children interested, not merely occupied, when travelling. Experienced parents have worked out that it's not what you buy for a trip, but how you present it. One mother, Anna Illingworth, makes up a surprise bag of 50p toys for each of her children for long journeys — a notebook and pencil, a fabric animal, a rubber insect, and so on. The fun is that everything is new.

Another mother, Sally Hamilton, has made compartmented hangings (like those fabric shoe-holders) which hook over the front seat headrests and dangle down in front of the children in the back. Each pocket contains a toy or a book, and always one surprise.

For air travel, Martha Pichey, herself a creator of toys, found a cheap and practical solution to her sons' impractical attachment to Lego. She buys Perspex boxes with removable trays from an ironmonger — the sort intended to hold nuts and bolts — and fills them with a selection of Lego. The boxes fit into the boys' backpacks and can be carried around easily.

Despite all the freebie knapsacks and colouring books and baseball caps offered by airline companies, her sons' Lego is always in great demand, with other children queuing to have a go.

DES JENSON

The VTech Alphabet Picture Desk (£39.99), for a child up to six, has eight activities and a voice. Stockists on 01235 546810

Above: WH Smith colouring books from about £2; 20 colouring pencils, £7.25; double-ended pens, £2.25; 20 fibre-tip pens, £1.20

Below: the VTech Smart Start Elite (£44.99) has learning activities including spelling, maths and music at three levels of difficulty. 01235 546810 for stockists

Games manufacturers have done some customising, too; most toy departments have a travel games section of miniature favourites, each no more than 8in square, costing £5-£8. The range includes Monopoly, which has a built-in compartment to contain all the pieces; Scrabble; Guess Who?; Frustration; Pass the Pigs; and a magnetic compendium of traditional games (ludo, draughts, snakes and ladders, nine men's morris and backgammon).

Battleships sets come in several forms, electronic and manual, and are easy to set up on a railway carriage table or a car's backseat.

Magnetic games are a good idea and the Early Learning Centre has several for £4-£8: a magnetic spelling board; magnetic art; magnetic mosaics and a magnetic play desk which closes up into a little briefcase, just the right size for a child's knee, for £14.99. Even the older children will probably need some direction with these toys though, and parents will have to do some work finding them words to spell as they go along.

If you find this a wearisome task, there is a set of flash cards at the Early Learning Centre with French words on one side and a picture of a *chien* or *baguette* on the other to pronounce and spell. John Adams Toys makes a travel pack of cards illustrated with objects to spot in town and country, such as a windmill or a football pitch.

Computers are another portable possibility, and some engage in conversation with young operators. The VTech range of computers, from £35, can be run on batteries and there are models for every age group and lap. The talking Mini-Wizard, the Talking Super Smart Start and the Talking Einstein sets grammatical problems, spelling activities, various mathematical and musical tasks.

Older technology, but still absorbing, are sticker books for £2-£3, which the Early Learning Centre cites as the most popular travelling companion. Galt Toys does a lunchbox-size sticker box containing 400 stickers, four picture backgrounds, writing paper, envelopes and various other entertainments for about £8. The illustrated books are particularly recommended, otherwise stickers will somehow find themselves stuck all over the windows of the car.

The craft section of toy departments yields some good, quiet occupations: braiding sets for making friendship bracelets and plaits for the hair, or badge kits.

Potentially more irritating to fellow passengers are magic sets: Marvin's Magic makes little boxed tricks, such as Baffling Boxes, or a Magic Dice Tunnel for about £3, or the Secret Box of Close-Up Magic containing 25 tricks for about £17.

Whatever you buy it's worth getting *My Day-to-Day Holiday Book: Age 5-8 / Age 9-12* by Sally Emerson (Pan Macmillan, £2.99 each) before you go away. The books give you a wealth of ideas for journeys, as well as the holidays themselves, and is a much better bet than my parents' fall-back game, Guess the Composer. This involved long hours of silent listening to Radio 3, only occasionally punctuated by a whispered suggestion: "... Is it Beethoven?" Clever parents.

SUE SWIFT

- *BBC Young Collection cassettes are available in record and book stores, and by mail order (0181-576 2236).*
- *MB Games, Galt Toys and Spears Games are available at most toy shops.*
- *The Early Learning Centre has 200 shops throughout Britain: ring 01793 443159 for a catalogue.*
- *Additional research by Caroline Griffiths.*

Parents on parenting, page 15

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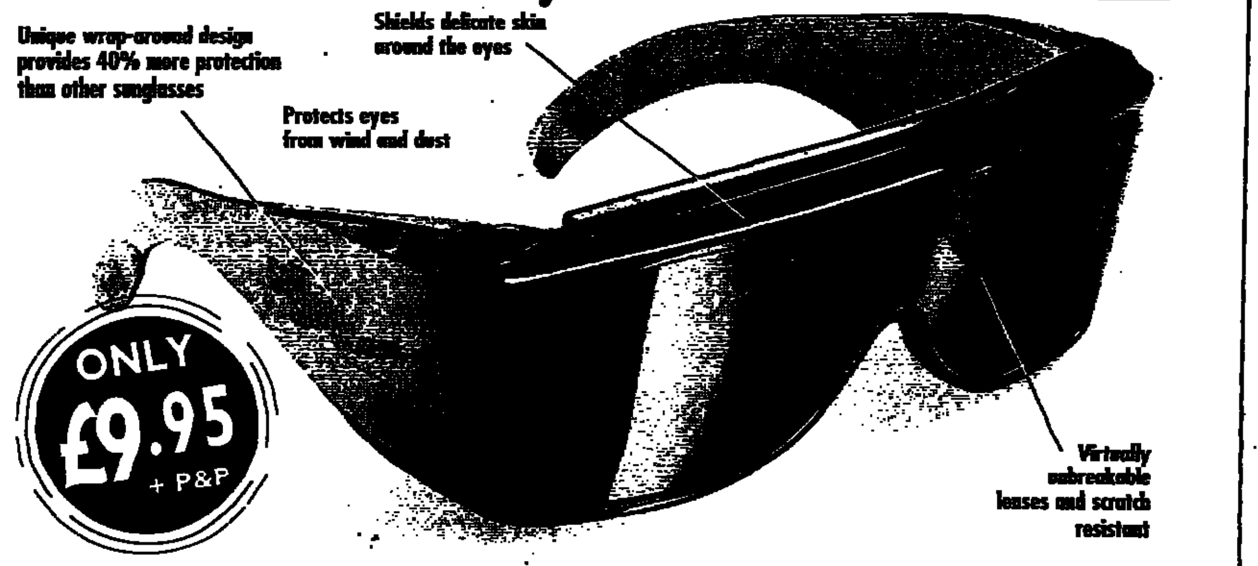

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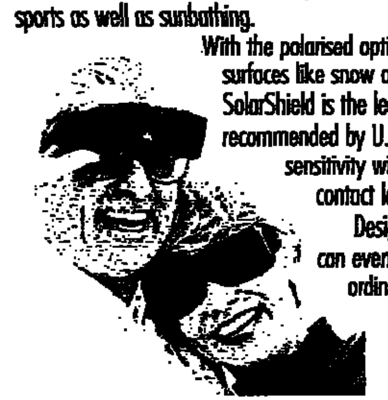

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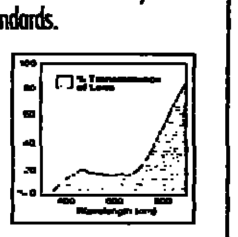

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A splash of Greene, a twist of Deighton, a small measure of history — John Lawton has produced a thrilling cocktail, **Peter Millar** writes

Khrushchev through the spyhole

JOHN LAWTON'S first novel, *Black Out*, was selected for W H Smith's Fresh Talent list last year and was praised by Scott Turow as "bringing to mind le Carré". Which only goes to show that even an acknowledged master of the all-pervasive American legal thriller can know little about the niceties of classic British espionage fiction.

There is almost nothing of the laid-back, ironically retrospective, world-weary le Carré style in Lawton's writing. He is far closer to early Graham Greene, in his "entertainment" mode, with perhaps a touch of late Len Deighton when it comes to incestuousness of plot. *Old Flames* is the sequel to *Black Out*, and every bit as good, although readers coming to it fresh will regret not having met the cast earlier, if only to answer nagging questions about their past.

The action is set in that strange summer of 1956 with the British Empire at twilight preparing to re-enact its glorious history as farce in Suez, sandwiched between the burgeoning new imperialisms of Moscow and Washington. Our hero, Freddy Troy, Scotland Yard's detective chief inspector in charge of the murder squad, is a character — as is pointed out to him in the pages of this book — who might have been born and brought up in a John Buchan novel before going to seed in middle age in 1950s Soho.

Lawton makes much of the temporal setting, treating his scene-setting with all the loving care of a Jane Austen adaptation. This is a deliberately construed period piece — laden with the contrasts of 1950s tatty pseudo-modernity against the dull solidity of immemorial Englishness. Troy's Russian immigrant background allows us to view ourselves from his critical standpoint as an outsider emotionally crippled by his need to belong.

■ OLD FLAMES
By John Lawton
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £15.99
ISBN 0 297 81695 0

All of that is called into question as he is drafted in, because of his command of Russian, to eavesdrop on Nikita Khrushchev during his visit to Britain. The eventual result is his involvement in a bizarre series of murders, new and old sexual liaisons, tying into a web of improbable espionage involving a Derbyshire carpet salesman with a penchant for wearing his frogman's suit in bed.

As if to complete the true-life setting, there are amusing cameo performances from real-life contemporary luminaries: notably Khrushchev himself as the arrogant, foul-mouthed peasant with power, plus George Brown and Tom Driberg as their inimitable, outspoken selves. In an historical postscript, Lawton admits that he has played fast and loose with any semblance of historical veracity, beyond pinching a few basics of his plot from actual events.

The result is an immensely readable, if sometimes infuriatingly involved, romp through the coulisses of a widely neglected historical setting. The cast of characters — both borrowed and invented — is as rich, rounded and eccentrically plausible as any in recent thriller fiction. Great stuff but it prompts the question of how Lawton will conclude what I feel must be a trilogy: Cuba perhaps?

Choking grip of a killer

Mary Loudon is both enthralled and sickened by the graphic detail of a homosexual murder spree

I MADE a sandwich for myself in the middle of reading *Exquisite Corpse* and it was a mistake. Clearly fascinated and appalled by the multiple killings of murderers Dennis Nilsen and Jeffrey Dahmer, Poppy Z. Brite's fourth horror novel concerns a (fictional) serial killer of young homosexual men; a man so lonely and so deranged he kills for company, keeping the corpses of his victims in bed or an armchair, stroking and talking to and raping their rotting bodies until they begin to disintegrate, and then cutting them to pieces.

Brite: seductive power

If you feel nauseous reading the above, then pity me and my sandwich. But not too much. For while *Exquisite Corpse* is the first novel I have ever read that made me feel physically sick, it is also one which held my attention utterly rapt until its ghastly end. The subject matter is foul but the narrative is arresting nonetheless, its strength the result of Brite's shocking, vivid prose; of the colour and texture of her beautiful writing; of her wit, her intelligence and the complexity of even her most heinous characters.

■ EXQUISITE CORPSE
By Poppy Z. Brite
Millennium, £9.99
ISBN 0 75280 205 4

Lots of people would hate this book, would think it unpleasant, offensive, vile. Is it? Well yes, of course it is. Violence is. But while Brite's descriptions of sexual murder are gruesome beyond belief, her attempts to explore what might drive a man to it, over and over again, is disturbing, intriguing and may or may not be close to some sort of truth.

I confess that I wondered what I might have felt had this novel been written by a man. It should not make any difference, but I think it probably did. I suspect that if it had been, I might have found *Exquisite Corpse* alarming for a whole host of other reasons, and I wonder whether this is sexist of me. Perhaps it is, but perhaps I was also seeking comfort in the fact that this tale of lurid homosexual destructive fantasy was indeed merely fantasy, written as it was by a woman. If that is the case, then it is a testimony to the seductive power of Brite's writing; for however shocking it is, *Exquisite Corpse* is a book to devour. But not while you are eating.

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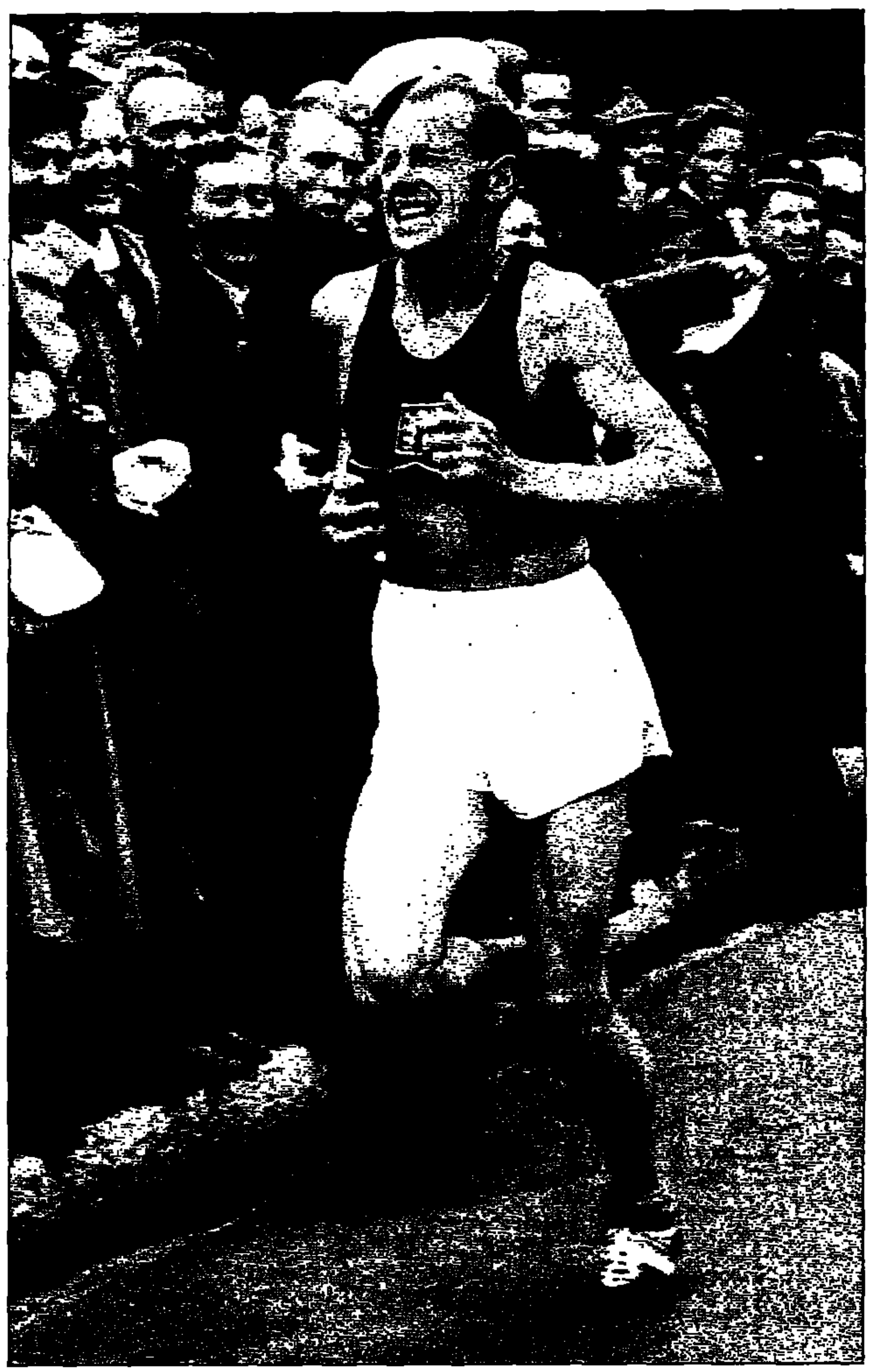

Glory road: Emil Zátopek on his way to a gold medal in the 1952 Olympic marathon, from Dorling Kindersley's lavish *Chronicle of the Olympics 1896-1996* (£19.95)

Nelson's columnist

BOOK NEWS

● ANTHONY SAMPSON has flown to South Africa this week to celebrate President Nelson Mandela's birthday, with a contract in his pocket to write the authorized biography of his old friend. It was Stuart Proffit, Lady Thatcher's editor at HarperCollins, who came up with the idea, and the deal was concluded with the literary agent Michael Sissons during Mandela's visit to London.

Sampson has known the President since the 1950s, when Mandela was a young lawyer and Sampson was the editor of the celebrated anti-apartheid magazine, *The Drum*. We shall discover more about Mandela's years in prison — and more about his matrimonial difficulties — when the book is published at the end of his presidential term in 1999.

● *JOHN MAJOR'S favourite caterer, Clare Latimer, bursts into print again this autumn with a cookbook that is sure to warm his heart (and his dinner plates): it will be entitled* Comfort Food.

● THE Ministry of Defence may soon be feeling less than pleased with one of its former heroes. The navigator John Nichol, who was shot down and briefly imprisoned during the Gulf War, is due to bring out his debut thriller, *Point of Impact*, with Hodder in the autumn.

It takes its cue from the unusually high number of crashes that have occurred over the past year, and under the cover of fiction claims to tell some stark truths about the havoc wreaked by budget cuts on the RAF. But will it see the light of day?

Cheers before bedtime

TEENAGE FICTION

WHAT does the jewel-encrusted turtle stolen from a batty actress in **Dakota of the White Flats** by film director Philip Ridley (Puffin, £3.99, ISBN 0 14 036893 0) have in common with the drain-dwelling monster of *Kindlekrax*, Ridley's earlier novel? Congenial and exotic, both creatures seem to be the key to adolescent triumph over adult pessimism, the ultimate coup in amazing friends. For Dakota Pink, heroine of this surreal table, the nightmarish rescue of the glittering turtle from her child-hating father enables her to put him to shame. "Yes, yes, yes," he cries. "I'm bald, fat, small and charmless." An adventure set in anxiety-land, this dazzling pastiche of the magical and menacing is wittily captured by Chris Riddell's drawings.

Shadow of a Hero by Peter Dickinson (Corgi, £3.99, ISBN 0 552 52844 7) is a fantasy only so far as the Balkan state of Varina is fictional. Otherwise with its big neighbours, bitterly embattled history and fragile independence, it could be Bosnia/Croatia. Born in Britain, Letta is learning the language and legends of her native land ("weird grammar" and all) from her grandfather, when he is called upon to return as Verina's figurehead. Letta's arrival on the scene opens up a story of political intrigue interwoven with conflicting personal relationships, making this an altogether fine example of Dickinson's impressive grasp of storytelling.

In **Tyger Pool** by Pauline Fisk (Red Fox, £3.50, ISBN 0 09 926411 0). Rose is numbed by her mother's death and her father's apparent insensitivity. Then come further unwelcome jolts: the presence of an unnerving lodger calling herself Aunt Cat and a building threat to Rose's magical woodland pool. Her only refuge is the warmly eccentric Rocket family, whose friendship braces her against darkening forces. Thirteen to fourteen-year-olds will be gripped as much by Rose's evolving strength as by a compelling and original fantasy in which human needs are powerfully explored.

MAUREEN OWEN

Just for the krak of it

Fates entwine in a collection of Haitian short stories

IN HAITI if you want someone to tell you a story, you say "krik". If they have one to tell, they answer "krak". Sometimes nobody says "krik" but you talk anyway, answering to the call of your ancestors or your dead sisters — and your sisters are often dead: "In our world writers are killed if they are men. Called lying whores, then raped and killed, if they are women."

Edwige Danticat is 27 and has lived in Brooklyn since she was 12. Often when she talks of writing, she does so in terms of cooking. When her family emigrated to America, they seem to have brought whole kitchens, whole markets and fields full of language with them, cupboards full of tales and memories and agonies of the flesh and the soul. She uses her ingredients with cunning, humour, violence and love.

■ KRIK! KRAK!
By Edwige Danticat
Abacus, £5.99
ISBN 0 349 10716 5

Haiti's fragile fragrances — bougainvillea and plantain — mingle with that of stinking pork intestines or rotting human flesh; landscapes of butterflies and mountains also include the American-built prisons in which so many women perish daily.

All the women in these stories are interlinked, by bloodlines or story lines, or plain common experience. In *Caroline's Wedding*, a story of two adult daughters living in Brooklyn with their mother, the narrator attends a Haitian Mass at which the names of drowned refugees are read. A name recurs from the opening story. "The list was endless and with each name my heart beat faster, for it seemed as though many of those listed might have been people I'd known at some point in my life."

Through the casual way these stories and their characters part and rejoin, Danticat creates a feeling that we too, through our implied "krik" as we part the book's covers, are touched by a web of involvement, spun outwards from the short, powerful narrative threads that weave hypnotically across each page.

HELEN STEVENSON

Sad songs drift across the border

VETERAN sniper and paid assassin Clayton Price begins to lose his grip when he settles a long-standing personal vendetta in Mexico instead of simply following orders. American journalist Danny Pastor, the only man in Puerto Vallarta who saw him do it, thinks he can dispel his own gathering sense of failure, and his writer's block, by helping the killer escape and selling the story. Danny's girlfriend Luz Maria insists on coming too, determined to realise her lifetime dream of escaping from the grinding poverty of Mexican village life to *el Norte*, the United States.

Robert James Waller's tale of Clayton and Danny's run for the border in a clapped-out Ford Bronco is a familiar one, with a scenario of *Gringos* against *federales*, rugged and inhospitable mountain landscapes, and smouldering *señoritas* with swinging hips. Danny helpfully reminds us from time to time of the family relationship between his story and those of others such as Hunter Thompson and Carlos Fuentes who have driven the dangerous sideroads down through Mexico from the American border towns. But Waller has a singular talent for drawing his reader emotionally deep into a world of deprivation, damaged lives, callousness and raw sensuality — the talent of the accomplished ballad-maker.

His style is spare and economical, but lyrical with suppressed feeling; he can seize and hold a key plot moment in a half-noticed glance or a glimpsed gesture. His hunted men sense danger like the wildcats with whom they share the landscape. His women's fingers bring calm as they brush a bruised cheek: the warmth of a half-smile, the promise of a discreet embrace offer an emotional haven. In spite of the inevitability of its ending, *Puerto Vallarta Squeeze* holds the reader spellbound to the very last page.

■ *PUERTO VALLARTA SQUEEZE*
By Robert James Waller
Heinemann, £10
ISBN 0 434 00259 3

Waller: a ballad-maker

"For flowers and sad songs," runs the epigram on the title page. On Luz Maria's tombstone in the tiny village of Ceylayla, where she was born, Danny Pastor inscribes, "Nothing remains but flowers and sad songs". *Puerto Vallarta Squeeze* is as haunting as it is compelling — as unforgettable as a sad song.

LIZA JARDINE

Guess who's for dinner

■ FLESH AND BLOOD: A History of the Cannibal Complex
By Reay Tannahill
Abacus, £8.99
ISBN 0 349 10610 X

EATING people is wrong. Yet people do consume their fellows from time to time, and we are fascinated and obsesssed with that fact. A luxuriant forest of myth, rumour, fabrication, anthropology and lurid journalism surrounds the subject. Reay Tannerhill's book is an attempt to slash a way through this jungle, from the myths of pre-history to contemporary celebrities such as Issei Sagawa, the Japanese student who killed and ate his girlfriend and is now — in a development worthy of Jonathan Swift — a well-known restaurant critic in Japan.

Flesh and Blood is a grizzly but not altogether convincing read. This is partly because Tannerhill relies on piling one damn thing on top of another, and partly because much of the "evidence" of cannibalistic practices is so implausible.

Human attitudes to cannibalism have always been ambivalent. It is regarded as the ultimate taboo, but, when done for reasons of survival, it evokes a kind of horror-struck acquiescence — as when those stout Catholic youths survived a plane crash in the Andes in 1972 by eating their deceased fellow passengers.

MARY EVANS

Myth: cannibals in Gabon

The fascination is in the question: would I have done the same? In the same year, a small plane carrying David Kootook, a 14-year-old Inuit, together with his chronically ill aunt and a nurse, crashed in the Arctic. The nurse died instantly, the aunt soon afterwards. When the emergency rations ran out, the crippled pilot proposed that they should eat the others. David refused on the grounds that both had been good to him, and died a few days later. The pilot ate the nurse — and survived. Which is the hero?

JOHN NAUGHTON

The Times / Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	WHEEL OF TIME BOOK 7: CROWN OF SWORDS **Robert Jordan** *(Orbit)*	£17.99	0	1
2	THE RUNAWAY JURY **John Grisham** *(Century)*	£12.99	3	8
3	FEET OF CLAY **Terry Pratchett** *(Gollancz)*	£15.99	2	7
4	EXCESSION **Iain M. Banks** *(Orbit)*	£15.99	1	4
5	OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS **Nick Pope** *(Scribner)*	£14.99	0	3
6	THE FOURTH ESTATE **Jeffrey Archer** *(HarperCollins)*	£16.99	0	7
7	THE WOMAN WHO WALKED INTO DOORS **Roddy Doyle** *(Jonathan Cape)*	£14.99	5	13
8	CRY OF THE HALIDON **Robert Ludlum** *(HarperCollins)*	£16.99	0	1
9	SOLITAIRE MYSTERY **Jostein Gaarder** *(Phoenix)*	£16.99	7	4
10	THE STORY OF PAINTING **Sister Wendy Beckett** *(Dorling Kindersley)*	£19.99	0	1

PAPERBACK

1	FROM POTTER'S FIELD **Patricia Cornwell** *(Warner)*	£5.99	10	3
2	GREEN MILE 4: BAD DEATH OF EDWARD DELACROIX **Stephen King** *(Penguin)*	£1.99	12	2
3	THE HORSE WHISPERER **Nicholas Evans** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	1	6
4	HIGH FIDELITY **Nick Hornby** *(Indigo)*	£5.99	2	14
5	COMPLETE THEORY TEST FOR CARS AND MOTORCYCLES *(HMSO)*	£9.99	0	2
6	THE LOST WORLD **Michael Crichton** *(Arrow)*	£5.99	15	2
7	SOPHIE'S WORLD **Jostein Gaarder** *(Phoenix)*	£6.99	3	19
8	ECSTASY **Irvine Welsh** *(Jonathan Cape)*	£9.99	6	7
9	THE GHOST ROAD **Pat Barker** *(Penguin)*	£6.99	0	1
10	THE PILLARS OF HERCULES **Paul Theroux** *(Penguin)*	£6.99	0	1
11	GRANTCHESTER GRIND **Tom Sharpe** *(Pan Macmillan)*	£5.99	5	5
12	OF LOVE AND OTHER DEMONS **Gabriel Garcia Marquez** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	7	2
13	THERAPY **David Lodge** *(Penguin)*	£6.99	4	10
14	ENIGMA **Robert Harris** *(Arrow)*	£5.99	13	9
15	THE MOOR'S LAST SIGH **Salman Rushdie** *(Vintage)*	£6.99	17	2
16	THE BEST OF FRIENDS **Joanna Trollope** *(Black Swan)*	£6.99	8	9
17	THE INFORMATION **Martin Amis** *(Flamingo)*	£6.99	9	4
18	GRIDIRON **Philip Kerr** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	19	5
19	INDEPENDENCE DAY **Richard Ford** *(Harvill)*	£6.99	0	1
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NEW IN PAPERBACK

REETA BHATIANI

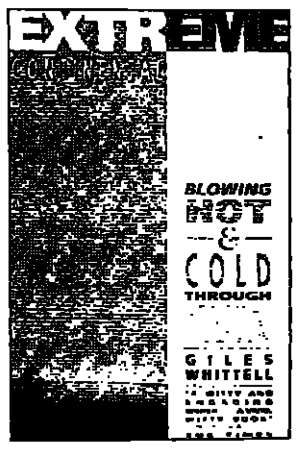
Rushdie: intricate prose jewelled with haunting images

■ THE MOOR'S LAST SIGH
By Salman Rushdie
Vintage, £6.99
ISBN 0 09 959241 X

SET largely in India, Rushdie's dynastic saga about the da Gama-Zogoibys is narrated by one of their nearly-extinct clan. The Moor (a nickname for Moraes) is in exile, fleeing assassination. Approaching his last gasp, he nails onto doors the tale of his family's fall, himself somewhere between Lucifer and a persecuted non-religious Luther.

This novel, while autobiographically allusive, has epic sweep. Rushdie's depiction of the Subcontinent is full of echoes of Dante, Greek myths, Shakespeare's tragedies. With a hint of Hollywood, the Moor's story spans four generations, telling of fortunes made and lost, scandals and suicides, of love-matches crossing class and Catholic-Jewish boundaries, of household schisms. Domestic affairs mingle with world events. The Moor's grandsires are imprisoned for opposing colonial rule.

Embodying India's cultural complexity, Rushdie's prose is an intricate, polyglot pastiche of styles from Biblical to pidgin English. Sometimes the rhymes and puns can seem strained. Rambling sentences may reflect the protagonist's itinerant and mentally confused state, but they can be a slog to follow. That said, this book is jewelled with humorous and haunting images. A bridegroom slips into his spouse's wedding dress and rows away. India is celebrated, mocked and mourned in all its rich sprawl.



■ EXTREME CONTINENTAL
By Giles Whittell
Indigo, £6.99
ISBN 0 575 40007 2

IN 1914, before the First World War broke out, *Times* journalist Stephen Graham travelled through Central Asia. Inspired by his writings, Giles Whittell made the same journey, from the Caspian Sea to the Altai via Bukhara and Samarkand in 1992. En route he encountered Communism's legacy of environmental pollution and shared a wedding tent in a valley untouched by the 20th century. Whittell is a sociable chap and it is his portraits of the people he meets — Sasha in Tashkent watching the Playboy channel on cable, Valery, who teaches him to ride a motorbike — that makes this so entertaining.

■ A PHILOSOPHICAL INVESTIGATION
By Philip Kerr
Vintage, £5.99
ISBN 0 09 973641 1

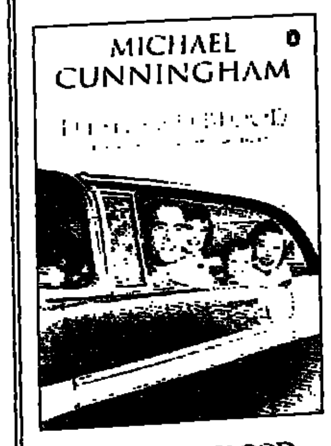
CHIEF Inspector Jakowicz finds that her murder investigation takes on the aspect of a philosophical enquiry. Her man, code-named Wittgenstein, is as clinical in the execution of logic as in the dispatch of his victims. A hybrid work that mixes crime with ideas and dystopia to form something slightly less than a perfect synthesis. The central concept is inspired and the narrative taut, but overall there is a tendency to posture rather than postulate.

■ AGE AND GUILE
By P.J.O'Rourke
Picador, £6.99.
ISBN 0 330 34801 9

SATIRICAL journalist P. J. O'Rourke has herded together a collection of his scribblings spanning the last 25 years. The author adopts a self-mocking stance charting his career rise from crazed underground publications. He throws in hoax foreign correspondence from Nixon's tour of China; a droll "performance art review" of the train ride to Penn Station, and some shamelessly awful poems. His tale *The Ghosts Of Responsibility* about young love lost is tender while his ruminations on the meaning of golf are absurd and sage.

■ CAESAR
By Christian Meier
Fontana, £9.99
ISBN 0 00 68349 3

A BIOGRAPHY of Caesar in the modern sense is impossible, since there is so much about his personal life that we can never know. His contemporaries certainly left some telling impressions of this ruthless operator. In this absorbing book Prof. Meier builds up a picture of the world in which a young aristocrat like Caesar grew up, showing how it influenced a man whose originality and ambition won spectacular victories for Rome but also plunged it into civil war.



■ FLESH AND BLOOD
By Michael Cunningham
Penguin, £6.99
ISBN 0 14 024644 4

WHEN Constantine and Mary Stassos first marry, they believe they can find their share of the American Dream. But as nuclear family values disintegrate in the face of the 20th century, their lives sour. Their three children cannot escape "the net of harms woven by their father and mother." Cunningham's unusual breadth of sympathy takes him to the heart of family life, moving easily from a father's overbearing demands to a son's coming to terms with his homosexuality, a daughter's rebellion or a mother's growing understanding. A stirring and unflinching novel of contemporary mores.

■ HEDINGHAM HARVEST
By Geroffrey Robinson
Constable, £9.95
ISBN 0 09 476600 2

LONG gone are the days of bull-baiting, rabbit-catching, blackbird-hunting or lark-shooting. But in this rollicking family memoir of Victorian rural England these and other pastimes are revived with relish as is "the level of rural fornification and adultery" where "the hedgerows, woods, barns and even bedrooms heaved with both to a degree that is not normally associated with the adjective 'Victorian'." A Lincolnshire village, Hedingham, and its people are enthusiastically resurrected in this vivid piece of social history which documents a kind of paradise lost.

Contributors: Kate Bassett, Fiona Hook, Ariadne Birnberg, Hazel Leslie, Fanny Blake.

Did Rose West get a fair trial?

Justice might have been the victim of prejudice, says

Marcel Berlins

■ "SHE MUST HAVE KNOWN"
By Brian Masters
Doubleday, £15.99.
ISBN 0 385 40650 9

THE title sums up what Brian Masters believes to be the main reason for the jury's verdicts that Rosemary West was guilty of the murders of ten young women at 25 Cromwell Street. There was very little direct evidence, perhaps none at all, that she had participated directly in the killings carried out by her husband Fred. But how could she, living with Fred in what was, as Masters admits, a surprisingly small house, not have known of the murderous activities being carried out, not just once or twice but on at least ten occasions? She must have realised; even if she did not personally bring any life to its end, she must have been thoroughly implicated.

Masters does not accept that reasoning. He cannot go as far as claiming affirmatively that Rosemary was innocent; but he argues that the legal test of guilt in a criminal trial — "beyond reasonable doubt" — was not met. On the evidence before the jury, he argues, she should have been acquitted.

He is also worried about a number of aspects of the trial which acted to Rosemary's disadvantage, a concern shared by many lawyers at the time. In particular, Masters is not alone in feeling that the evidence against Rosemary was tainted by the fact that several important witnesses had sold their stories to newpapers and therefore had a financial interest in her conviction.

Rosemary's most devastating antagonist, though, was her own husband. His suicide effectively denied her the chance of defending her role against his. We do not know whether, had he stood trial, Fred West would have tried to persuade the jury of Rosemary's responsibility for the killings, or of her ignorance of them — and whether the jury would have believed him. Perhaps Geoffrey Wansell's forthcoming biography of Fred, with access to his writings and confessions, will reveal more.

Masters supports his thesis with some interesting psychological analysis of Fred and Rosemary. As the author of two compelling studies of serial killers, Dennis Nilsen and Jeffrey Dahmer, Masters's opinions on mass murder are worth respect. In the end he puts up a good, though not overwhelming, case that Rosemary West was the victim of a wrongful conviction, according to law. But he never quite manages to refute the logic of his book's title: common sense tells us that "she must have known".

West: possible wrongful conviction

It does not matter too much, because had she been acquitted of murder, her depraved conduct would have resulted in other charges against her which would anyway have guaranteed a life sentence.

Helping mother to know best

■ PARENTS ON PARENTING
By Sarah Johnson
Vermilion, £9.99
ISBN 0 09 178588 X

IN THE realm of bringing up children, parents often know better than any baby-care guru. You only have to watch a naturally good parent at work, in the street, at the supermarket, on the train to learn more in ten minutes about bringing up baby than reading a stack of baby books.

I very much like the idea of tackling child rearing from the coalface, so to speak, and this book repeatedly cuts through the theory to the nub of what childcare is all about in a way I found refreshing and appealing, but most of all useful.

Parents casting about for guidance on how to be a good parent will be relieved to find suggestions which are instantly applicable. Separate the child from the behaviour; say, "That was a naughty thing to do", *not* "You're a naughty girl". Do not shout. Shouting breeds shouting and has less effect the more you do it, so try having a "whispering day" or pretend you have laryngitis. Keep a sense of proportion; your child will not have an unhappy life if he does not fold his clothes but will if he thinks he can get away with bullying, lying or selfishness. Oh, lots of good stuff here.

The potency of pocket case-histories, which abound throughout the book, lies in their sincerity. No parent can fail to be reassured that so many diligent parents have struggled, tried alternatives and decided that it is not actually important if you cave in now and then over the sweets that were forbidden, a bedtime later than normal, or tidying the toys instead of her — your child will not turn into an axe-murderer. Next time just be honest. "Yes I gave in, but I was tired and regret it and I don't want you to have bad teeth."

THERE is hardly a sticky question left unanswered here and solutions come thick and fast in the form of "rescue packages" which I wish I had had access to 20 years ago. Just turn to page 71, where Belinda is describing how she coped with her three squabbling boys. "Say the rudest thing you like, just don't hit each other." Tongues hurt less than fists.

Best of all *Parents on Parenting* allows us to feel that we are not total failures. On smacking: "A parent who claims never to have smacked their child is very forgetful or a liar." And again: "It is odd that we prefer to hit our children when they are at their smallest and weakest, but that seems to be the way we are."

In implicitly giving us that permission, Sarah Johnson subtly persuades us to reject physically punishing our children. With that one phrase, "but that seems to be the way we are", we resolve to try never to smack again. That is quite an achievement — to nudge parents towards self-knowledge and changed behaviour.

But what will make this book a boon for parents is the practical advice — how to encourage a responsible child through personal maintenance, basic tidying, household responsibilities, meal times and special jobs, from very young up to the age of ten; what precautions to take if you have to leave your child home alone; useful addresses categorised by subject such as Toys and Play, Thinking and Talking and Bereavment.

Were my own sons not 30, 28, 25 and 22, I would fly to this book for sage advice; well — as a grandparent — perhaps . . .

MIRIAM STOPPARD

Anthony Holden on Sam Wanamaker's magnificent, lifelong obsession

RICHARD KALINA

One man's dream: the reconstructed Globe theatre will be the centre of a Shakespeare complex in Southwark

All his world was a stage

■ THIS WOODEN O
By Barry Day
Oberon Books, £19.99
ISBN 1 870259 49 1

WHEN the American actor Sam Wanamaker first came to London in 1949, an outspoken liberal fleeing the wrath of Senator McCarthy, he headed straight for the south bank of the Thames to seek out the British shrine to his idol, William Shakespeare.

Familiar with his countrymen's attempts in Chicago, Ohio and elsewhere to recreate the Globe theatre, Shakespeare's "Wooden O", Wanamaker was anxious to see how much better the Brits had managed it in Southwark. All he found, to his astonished dismay, was a barren wasteland — adorned only, amid the graffiti, by a rusting plaque on the wall of a makeshift car park.

From that moment, Wanamaker made it his life's mission to amend what he rightly regarded as a scandalous omission by his adopted country. For 20 years, as he pursued his career and raised his family, he talked about it incessantly — to the point where his brother, a Chicago doctor, finally told him to shut up and do something.

That took the next 20 years. The foundations had at last been laid by the time Wanamaker's death in 1993 robbed him of the chance to see his dream eventually realised.

This is the heroic story of those fraught decades, when Wanamaker and a changing succession of equally obsessive allies took on the combined forces of inertia, philisitinism, Establishment indifference and bureaucratic bloody-mindedness to build the handsome Elizabethan theatre which now stands on the site, soon to be in business, supposedly the heart of a mammoth Shakespeare complex by the turn of the millennium.

It is told in detail meticulous to a degree, which part exasperates, part enrages. If Wanamaker could not have had a more devoted chronicler than Barry Day, he might have hoped for a less prolix, more literate one. The number of sentences which end in ellipses left me constantly wanting to hurl the book out the window, then thinking better — for its hero's sake rather than its author's.

For this is a story which demands to be told, an aptly chaotic monument to a noble American visionary who did for Britain in four decades what Shakespeare's own countrymen had shamefully failed to achieve over four centuries.

Editorially, the book may be as much of a shambles as the tale it tells; but both, at least, are redeemed by happy endings.

A nostalgic autobiography by Paddington's creator

The bear facts of life

■ BEARS AND FOREBEARS: A LIFE SO FAR
By Michael Bond
HarperCollins, £18
ISBN 0 00255704 5

MICHAEL BOND is the creator of Paddington, the most famous fictional bear since Winnie the Pooh. Although in the jacket photograph Bond looks slap up to date in his rakish trenchcoat, he was born in 1926, a year that has already acquired the sepia tinge of history, being the year of the first talking picture and the first British general strike.

Somehow, in this gently meandering memoir, Bond makes most of the events in his life seem like happenings in a long-distant past. Perhaps his old fashioned writing style has something to do with it — he is often "thrown in at the deep end" or meeting people in whom "there undoubtedly lurked a heart of gold". Or perhaps it is because the world has changed so much in the past three decades that it is hard to imagine that the 1950s occurred within living memory. As recently as 1956, Bond revealed, no television programmes were transmitted for an hour in the early evening, the so-called "Toddlers Truth" to allow parents to put their children to bed.

Bond, brought up in Reading, was a watchful, self-absorbed only child who played endlessly with his marionette theatre, liked taking things to pieces to see how they worked and was besotted by the movies. After a rather uneventful war, he became a BBC cameraman, while starting to write stories and articles, including a series on scooters for the *Manchester Guardian*.

Paddington: the most famous bear since Winnie the Pooh

A Bear Called Paddington was published in 1958, the appealing and homeless little animal inspired by a toy bear which Bond had given to his wife at the time and the memory of evacuee children wearing labels around their necks. The Browns, the family who give Paddington a home, were based on Bond's own parents, timorous, rigid in outlook and utterly decent.

Bond's autobiography is rich in anecdote about the early days of television, the merchandising and marketing of Paddington Bear and Bond's sexual awakening, which he lingers over with a quite smutty relish.

For years now, Bond has been a worldly sophisticate and Francophile gourmet but something remains in him of the unworldly young boy, going to Reading station to watch the Cheltenham Flyer thunder through, making him endearingly Pooterish.

PENNY PERRICK

Publish and be damned silly

■ BESTSELLER
By Olivia Goldsmith
HarperCollins, £14.99
ISBN 0 00 225341 0

PUBLISHERS will probably start this account of their industry at the index — I did. Failing to find themselves — as I did — they will turn to the lengthy acknowledgements, which quickly reveal the apparatus as a little joke. Nothing for it but to read the book.

I found myself on page 63, at a party. I am with "the old charmer" Patrick Janson-Smith (of Transworld) and Ian Chapman (of Macmillan), "in need of a haircut". I have no adjectives appended — a rarity in *Bestseller*. I am not sure how to take the fact that my name has been borrowed to provide authenticity, along with any number of other publishing names and a good few anecdotes and in-jokes.

But do not read this book if you want to know what publishing is like. Reviewers of commercial fiction usually have a lot of fun at the expense of an author's inability to write about sex. Olivia Goldsmith hardly even tries. And yet, not for the first time, I am struck by a writer's inability to write about work — perhaps authors have more experience of sex than of office life.

Novels of the 1980s tended to be long by virtue of plaiting together two or three strands which could quite easily be novels in their own right, drawn together by theme or place or — surprisingly often — jewellery and/or money. *Bestseller* is a novel of the 1990s. We know this because money is not the chief motivation. Instead we have too many stories, all about novelists or would-be novelists.

There is Gerald Ochs Smith, publisher-cum-novelist, and his editor-in-chief, in search of this year's bestseller, as well as the brilliant-but-as-yet-unrecognised assistant, Emma, none of whom interested me one jot. Altogether more fun are the husband-and-wife team, in which the husband is trying to take credit for his wife's book; the English writer finishing her book and falling in love in Tuscany (I am a sucker for Italian settings); and, best of all, the strand which starts off with the least promise as a publisher's rejection letter causes Terry to commit suicide on page ten, but not before she has ruminated on the fact that "the pain was not going to be ameliorated by the benison of talent", only for her mother to take up the cause of getting her daughter's novel published.

Despite some evidence that "the benison of talent" was entirely absent, I did find the mother in me rooting for her.

CLARE ALEXANDER

● *The author is publishing director of Viking and Hamish Hamilton.*

In an age of daemons

■ HIS DARK MATERIALS — NORTHERN LIGHTS
By Philip Pullman
Point, £12.99
ISBN 0 590 54178 1

LYRA BEKACQUA is an unusual child: "half-wild, half-civilised", with no knowledge of her parentage, she has been left to live among the unworldly scholars of Jordan College, Oxford.

Lyra's Oxford is almost recognisable — crusty dons, private common rooms, bitter in-fighting and rampant sexism. But the emphasis on cosmology and "anbaralogy", and the worries about the Tartar's invasion of the frozen north, are the first indicators that her universe is not quite our own. Indeed, she lives in "Brytain", where the currency is gold dollars and fear stalks in the form of "the gobblers", who spirit children away to who knows where.

Philip Pullman has set this fantasy for teenagers in a sort of contemporary Dark Age. Its characters can both enjoy the trappings of 20th-century life, as well as search for other worlds and converse with witches. But Pullman's best creation are the daemons.

In his world, the difference between humans and animals is not language — Lyra has many a chat with a multilingual polar bear; it is that every human is protected by his or her own daemon, in the shape of an animal, without which a person cannot survive.

Lyra's adventure begins when she discovers that her natural mother is the chief "gobbler", sending the stolen children north to have experiments done to them and their daemons. When her father and her best friend disappear as well, she is off to the Arctic — the land of king bears, witches, mysterious "Dust" and the dazzling Aurora.

Pullman: magical fantasy

Northern Lights has won the Carnegie Medal and the *Guardian* Prize for children's fiction, and enjoyed commercial success in America. It is the first part of a trilogy, but the author has said that the second will be set in our universe. After this magical tale, that can only be a let-down.

GILL HORNBY

GOING OUT

CHILDREN

■ **LONDON**

Children's Quiz
Eight year olds and under are invited to bring a pencil for a tour around the Gallery Collection.
National Gallery,
Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321). Today, phone for details; free.

Children's Summer Funfair
Featuring a mini helter-skelter ride and bouncy castle for youngsters.
Alexandra Park,
Wood Green, N22. Today, tomorrow, midday-7pm; free.

From Fisticuffs to Swords
A film workshop for eight-year-olds to adult.
Museum of London,
London Wall, EC2 (0171-600 3699). Tomorrow, 12.45pm, 2pm and 3.30pm; £3.50, child £1.75.

Funny Bones
Pandemonium strikes in Ghost Town for ages six to 11.
Havil Hall,
Havil Street, SE5 (0171-708 5401). Today, 11.30am and 2.30pm; £4, child £3.

Lambeth Country Show
Featuring music, dance, farm animals and a funfair.
Brockwell Park, SE24 (0171-926 9340). Today and tomorrow, 10.30am-6.30pm; free.

Storytelling Workshops
Six- to 14-year-olds are invited to participate in a workshop exploring loyalty between friends and brave tales of travellers, led by Vetta Alexis.
British Museum,
Great Russell Street, WC1 (0171-412 7797). Tomorrow, 3pm-4.30pm; free.

The Wonderland Adventures of Alice
Spectacular summer show with comic characters, presented by London Bubble.
Valentines Park,
Cranbrook Road, Ilford, Essex (0171-237 1663). Today, 7.30pm, tomorrow, 5.30pm; £10, concs £6.

Zippo's Circus
All-new circus. Horses are the only animals included.
Barking Road Recreation Ground,
E6 (0374-811811). Today, 2.30pm, 5pm and 7.30pm, tomorrow 11am and 2.30pm; £4.50-£8.50, child £3.50-£7.50.

■ **REGIONAL**

BELFAST
The Portrush Flyer
Journey from Belfast to the Portrush seaside in a delightful steam train.
Belfast Central Railway Station,
(01960 353 567). Today, departs Belfast 9.05am, arrives Portrush midday; departs Portrush 4.45pm, arrives Belfast 7.30pm; £15, concs £9 (booking: 01960 344 566/fax 350 350).

CRAIGAVON
Vikings and Pirates!
A mixed bag of treats in this adventure excursion, including face-painting on board the boat, plus games, a treasure hunt and a tour around Coney Island.
Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Oxford Island,
(01762 322 205). Today, 11am-4pm; advance booking essential, phone for details.

GUILDFORD
Moscow State Circus
The very best in circus entertainment from the acclaimed company. No animals.
Stoke Park,
(0421 565 557). Today, ends tomorrow, 2pm and 5pm; prices range from £20-£6, phone for further details.

LEEDS
Dance Workshop
Toe-tap, salsa and boogie your way through a range of dance styles. Eight- to 13-year-olds.
Northern School of Contemporary Dance,
Chapeltown Road (0113 262 5359). Today, 9.30am-2.30pm; admission 50p.

LEEDS
Rhythms of the City
Special children's activities include a bouncy castle and a craft corner.
Rhythms of the City Festival,
Various venues (0113 244 2111). Today, tomorrow, times vary, phone for details; free.

MANCHESTER
Vivid
Eleven- to 16-year-olds are invited to learn all about art.
Cornerhouse,
Oxford Street (0161-228 2463). Today, 11.30am; £2.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
Children's Gallery
Interactive games, art and toys for the under fives.
Laing Art Gallery,
Higham Place (0191-232 7734). Today, 10am-5pm, tomorrow, 2pm-5pm; free.

SHEFFIELD
Festival
Stalls, entertainers and games.
Various venues (0114 281 4050). Ends today, phone for details.

WOKING
The Wind in the Willows
Adapted by Alan Bennett from the classic tale.
New Victoria Theatre,
Peacock Centre (01483 761 144). Ends tonight, 8pm; £9-£22.50.

LAURIE LEWIS/FRANK SPOONER PICTURES

Guildford: walking the tightrope in the Moscow State Circus

CLASSICAL

■ **LONDON**

Black and Classic/Herbert
Featuring *Stabat Mater* by Pergolesi and Buxtehude's *Llaudate Pueri Dominum*.
St James's Church,
Piccadilly, W1 (0171-437 5053). Tonight, 7.30pm; £12.50.

Dmitri Alexeev
Ten waltzes are among the highlights in a Chopin recital.
Wigmore Hall,
Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm; £8-£16.

English Chamber Orchestra/Heath
Handel's *Water Music* and Schubert's Fifth Symphony as part of an 80th birthday concert for Sir Edward Heath.
Kenwood,
Hampstead Lane, NW3 (0171-413 1443). Tonight, 7.30pm; £10.50 and £13.50, concs £8.50.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

CHELTENHAM FINALE

The Cheltenham Music Festival ends this weekend with recitals in the Pittville Pump Room by three of Britain's finest women soloists. The soprano Joan Rodgers gives the professional premiere of Michael Berkeley's *Songs for Children* in an otherwise 19th-century song programme this morning (11am). And there is another world premiere tonight, when Imogen Cooper plays Thomas Adès's *new piano work, Traced Overhead*, in a concert that also includes Haydn, Schumann and Bartok. Tomorrow, at 11am, Emma Kirkby brings her matchless early music vocal artistry to bear on a programme of consort songs stretching from the 16th to the 20th century.

RICHARD MORRISON

***Various venues*,**
Cheltenham Festival box office (01242 227 979).

London: Sir Edward Heath is the conductor at Kenwood

Piers Lane
The Third Sonata, waltzes and mazurkas are included in this all-Chopin recital.
Wigmore Hall,
Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tomorrow, 11.30am; £7.

■ **REGIONAL**

BIRMINGHAM
London Concert Orchestra/Wynne-Griffiths
Amongst the popular favourites included in this classical gala is Grieg's Piano Concerto.
Symphony Hall,
Broad Street (0121-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm; £5-£22.50.

CAMBRIDGE
Britten Sinfonia/Cleobury
Paying tribute to Gerhard, performing his Piano and Harpsichord Concertos and Falla's *El Amor Brujo*.
West Road Concert Hall,
University of Cambridge (01223-504 444). Tonight, 8pm; £12, concs £6.

POP

CRITIC'S CHOICE

ALAN STIVELL

With popular interest in Celtic music at an all-time peak, the Breton singer and harp player Alan Stivell pays a timely visit to promote his album *Brian Boru*. A fusion of traditional sounds (bagpipes, flute, whistle and Celtic harp) with the more strident tones of electric guitar and synthesizer, this latest batch of songs originate from Ireland, Scotland and Wales as well as France. Stivell's arrangements couch such celebrated melodies as *Mairi's Wedding* and *Lands of My Fathers* in a modern rock idiom while taking care to preserve the spirit that gave these songs such enduring appeal in the first place.

DAVID SINCLAIR

***Barbican Centre*,**
Silk Street, London EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm; £7.50-£12.50.

■ **LONDON**

A Day for Tibet
Sinead O'Connor, Trilok Gurtu and John Etheridge and Andy Summers are among those playing in this concert to raise awareness of occupied Tibet.
Alexandra Palace,
Wood Green, N22 (0171-383 7533). Today, midday-7pm; £10, children £5.

London: Alan Stivell

Croydon Folk and Blues Festival
Bert Jansch, Beverley Martyn, Spoonful' Blues (today), Wizz Jones, John Pearson Trio, David Hughes with Gerry Conway (tomorrow)..
Croydon Clocktower, Braithwaite Hall,
Katherine Street, Croydon (0181-253 1030). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm; £8.

Gabrielle
British soul singer continues her month-long Sunday night residency.
Ronnie Scott's,
Frith Street, W1 (0171-439 0747). Tomorrow, 8pm; £8.50.

TUC Respect Festival
Free festival with headliners Incognito, Gregory Isaacs, Dreadzone, Chumbawamba and Credit to the Nation.
Finsbury Park,
N4 (0171-467 1287).
Tonight, midday-9pm; free.

Tina Turner
Rock's glamorous granny on stage.
Wembley Stadium,
Empire Way (0181-900 1234). Today, 4pm, tomorrow, 3.30pm; £25-£30.

Hukwe Zawose and the Wagogo Drummers
Traditional music of Tanzania.
Watermans Arts Centre,
Brentford High Street (0181-568 1176). Tonight, 10.30pm; £8-£9.

■ **REGIONAL**

CAMBRIDGE
Cowboy Junkies
Ambient folk and country rock from the Canadian Timmins siblings.
Corn Exchange,
Wheeler Street (01223-357 851). *Tonight, 7.30pm*;
£10.50-£12.50.

CARLISLE
Brampton Live
Folk festival which includes such groups as Caravanserai, New Bushbury Mountain Daredevils, Big Jig (today), Steeleye Span, Shooglenifty, Kristina Olsen (tomorrow).
William Howard Centre,
Brampton (01228-512 444). Today, 1.30pm, tomorrow, 12.30pm; prices vary.

EDINBURGH
Sona Diabate
Guinean singer and guitarist from the all-female group Les Amazones de Guinee.
Fruitmarket Gallery,
Market Street (0131-225 2383). Tonight, 9pm; £4.50, concs £2.50.

GILLINGHAM
Parklife
Acid jazz team the James Taylor Quartet lead a festival of local bands.
Gillingham Park,
Canterbury Street (01634-282 618). Today, midday-10.30pm; free.

GLASGOW
Bryan Adams, Del Amitri, Melissa Etheridge, Ricky Ross
Mainstream rock from the now officially huge Adams and some like-minded souls.
Ibrox Stadium,
Edmiston Drive (0141-427 8500). Today, 2pm; £23.

Elvis Costello and the Attractions
The New Wave intellectual plays his new album, *All That Useless Beauty*, with his original backing band.
Barrowland, Gallowgate (0141-552 4601). Tomorrow, 7.30pm; £14.

Neil Young and Crazy Horse
Just a quick stop-off by the country-rock and grunge original, playing his latest album entitled *Broken Arrow*.
Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre,
(0141-248 9999). Today, 6.30pm; £21-£23.50.

LIVERPOOL
Elvis Costello and the Attractions
See Glasgow.
Royal Court,
Roe Street (0151-709 4321). Today, 7.30pm; £11.50-£12.50.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
Boyzone
Irish teenage boy band.
Newcastle Arena,
Neville Street (0191-401 8000). Today, 6.30pm; £12.50.

READING
Womad Festival
With Thomas Mapfumo and Mbiras Unlimited, the Mighty Diamonds, Banco De Gaia, Kali, Banyumas Bamboo Gamelan (today), Ng La Banda, Remmy Ongala, Dreadzone, Barenaked Ladies, Wagogo Women's Drum and Dance Ensemble, Jackie Leven, Mayte Martin and N'Java (tomorrow).
Rivermead,
Richfield Avenue (01734 591 591). Today, tomorrow; £50, day tickets £22.

SHEFFIELD
Boyzone
See Newcastle upon Tyne.
Sheffield Arena,
Broughton Lane (0114-256 5656). Tomorrow, 6.30pm; £12.50.

Music in the Sun
Rock and reggae from Longpigs, Blameless, Kenickie, Jazz Jamaica (today), Frankie Paul, the Mighty Diamonds, Zion Train (tomorrow).
Don Valley Grass Bowl,
(0114-275 4504). Today, tomorrow, 2pm-midnight; free.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
Phoenix
With Bjork, Massive Attack, Cypress Hill, Skunk Anansie, Shed Seven, *Mazzy Star, Grant Lee* Buffalo, Goldie, US3 (today), the Sex Pistols, Terrorvision, Echobelly, Marion, Coolio, Reef, the Chemical Brothers, Spooky, James Taylor Quartet (tomorrow).
Long Marston Airfield,
(0171-344 0044). Today, tomorrow, 10am; £65, day tickets £25.

JAZZ

CRITIC'S CHOICE

MARY CLEERE HARAN

One of the classiest of New York cabaret singers, Mary Cleere Haran celebrates the *songs of Rodgers and Hart in* her debut residency in London. Always ready with a subtle one-liner, Haran revisits the ghosts of Tin Pan Alley with the help of her accompanist and arranger, the multi-talented Richard Rodney Bennett.

CLIVE DAVIS

***Pizza on the Park*,**
Knightsbridge, London
SW1 (0171-235 5273). Tonight, 9.15pm and 11.15pm: £18.

■ **LONDON**

Marque Gilmore's Drum FM with Graham Haynes
American drummer leads a live jazz-jungle session featuring cryptic New York trumpeter Graham Haynes and African percussionist Andy Moses.
Purcell Room,
South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 8pm; £10.

Weldon Irvine
Soul-jazz survivor from the 1960s, best known for his rare groove classics such as *Walk That Walk and Talk That Talk*.
Jazz Cafe,
Parkway, NW1 (0171-344 0044). Tonight, 7pm; £12, adv £10.

Christchurch: George Melly

Peter King
Dazzling bebop altoist.
Bull's Head,
Lonsdale Road, SW13 (0181-876 5241). Tonight, 8pm; £6.

Art Porter, Tony O'Malley Quartet
Oddball tenor saxophonist from Arkansas, with support from soul-jazz singer O'Malley.
Ronnie Scott's,
Frith Street, W1 (0171-439 0747). Tonight, 9pm; £12.

Don Weller
Serpentine tenor saxophonist veteran.
606 Club,
Lots Road, SW10 (0171-352 5953). Tonight, 10pm; £4.50.
Bull's Head,
Lonsdale Road, SW13 (0181-876 5241). Tomorrow, 8pm; £5.

■ **REGIONAL**

BIRMINGHAM
Lou Dalgleish
Poetic, gravel-voiced chanteuse.
Mac,
Cannon Hill Park (0121-440 3838). Tonight, 7.30pm; £7.

CHESTER
Raw Stylus
London funk team.
Telfords Warehouse,
Tower Wharf (01244-390 090). Tonight, 8.30pm; £4.

CHISLEHURST
Tim Whitehead Quartet
Fiery fusion and hard bop tenorist features blind pianist Pete Jacobsen.
Bull's Head Hotel,
Royal Parade (0181-467 1727). Tomorrow, 8pm; £6.

CHRISTCHURCH
George Melly
The pantomime dame of traditional jazz hits the road.
Regent,
Christchurch High Street
(01202-479 819). Tomorrow, 8pm; £8.50, £7.50.

LEEDS
Negrocan
Latin-jazz octet fusing Uruguayan Candombe and Brazilian rhythms.
The Yardbird Suite Jazz Club,
The Underground, T & C Club, Cookridge Street (0113-230 2669). Tonight, 8.30pm; £5.

TAUNTON
Elaine Delmar
American singer salutes Porter and Gershwin.
Brewhouse,
Coal Orchard (01823-283 244). Tonight, 7.45pm; £8.

WELWYN GARDEN CITY
Scott Hamilton with the Mike Carr Trio
US tenorist joins British veteran Carr.
Fairway Suite;
Old Herns Lane (01438-717 997). Tomorrow, 8pm; £8.

FILMS

Films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

CRITIC'S CHOICE

◆ THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS AND DOGS (15)

Short, dark and dumpy Janeane Garofalo gets tall, blonde and lissom Uma Thurman to be her stand-in for a romance with Ben Chaplin (another British actor conquering American hearts). Romantic comedy with no surprises but plenty of pleasant humour; directed by Michael Lehmann.

GEOFF BROWN

***ABC Tottenham Court Road* (0171-636 6148) *Odeon Kensington* (01426-914 666) *Ritzy* (0171-737 2121) *Screen on Baker Street* (0171-935 2772) *Screen on the Hill* (0171-435 3366) *Virgins: Fulham Road* (0171-370 2636) *Haymarket* (0171-839 1527) *Warner West End* (0171-437 4343)**

London: *Cats and Dogs*

■ **NEW RELEASES**

LES APPRENTIS (15):
Meandering adventures of French layabouts. Weak comedy by Pierre Salvadori, with François Cluzet and Guillaume Depardieu.
ABC Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470) **MGM Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **HAPPY GILMORE** (12): Blue-collar guy hits the golf links. So-so vehicle for a grating television comic, Adam Sandler.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800-888 997) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

HUSTLER WHITE (18): Adventures of male hustlers on Santa Monica Boulevard. Unappealing.
ICA Cinema (0171-930 3647)

■ **CURRENT**

◆ **THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME** (U):
Victor Hugo meets the Disney animators. A perverse mix of the cuddly and downbeat.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) ***MGMs*: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Leicester Square** (01426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **KINGPIN** (12):
Unfunny comedy about hustlers on the road, with Woody Harrelson, Randy Quaid and Bill Murray.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0171-586 3057) **West End** (01426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888 990)

◆ **THE ROCK** (18):
Belligerent action movie set on Alcatraz, with Nicolas Cage, Sean Connery and Ed Harris. Director, Michael Bay.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888 990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

COMEDY

CRITIC'S CHOICE

SHORT BAC AND SIDES

***Pip Edinburgh Festival* fans to the post. Comics are now limbering up on the London fringe before the mighty Scottish bash. The Battersea Arts Centre will be swarming with stand-ups from Monday on. *Shows worth a peep* include the savagely witty Greg Proops and the *Fist of Fun* lads Lee and Herring. Also the nicely droll Dominic Holland, the madcap Mel and Sue and that clever beanpole Ben Moor.**

KATE BASSETT

***Battersea Arts Centre*,**
Lavender Hill, Battersea (0171-223 2223). Phone for details.

■ **LONDON**

Banana Cabaret
With Dan Evans, Tim Clark, Otiz Cannelloni and Kevin Kopstein.
Banana Cabaret, The Bedford,
Bedford Hill, SW12 (0181-673 1756). Tonight, 9pm; £6.

Edinburgh Preview: I Can't Believe It's Not the Butter Facto.
Comic sketches from the Cheese Collective.
King's Head, Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Tomorrow, 8pm; £5.

Comedy Store Players
Mainstream television personality line-up including Josie Lawrence, Paul Merton and Lee Simpson.
Comedy Store,
Oxendon Street, SW1 (01426-914 433). Tomorrow, 8pm; £10.

Downstairs at the King's Head
Huw Thomas MCs for Paul Zenon, JoJo Smith and Johnathon Paylor.
Downstairs at the King's Head,
Crouch End Hill, N8 (0181-340 1028). Tonight, 8.30pm; £4.50, concs £3.50.

East Dulwich Tavern: Edinburgh Previews
Featuring Dembina and Djalili and Steve Brody.
East Dulwich Tavern,
Lordship Lane, SE22 (0181-299 4138). Tonight, 9pm; £5.

Edinburgh Preview: Jenny Eclair
Top Brit bleached-blonde comedian dishing out the dirt.
Pleasance London (above Shillibeers Brasserie Bar),
Carpenters Mews, North Road, N7 (0171-609 1800). Tonight, 10pm; £6.

Gigglefest! — Edinburgh Preview Season
Milton Jones on stage tonight with the Head.
The Hen and Chickens Theatre Bar,
St Paul's Road, N1 (0171-704 2001). Tonight, 9.30pm; £5, concs £4.

Gigglefest! — Edinburgh Preview Season
The world according to Lenny Beige.
The Hen and Chickens Theatre Bar,
St Paul's Road, N1 (0171-704 2001). Tonight, 8pm; £5.

Jongleurs Camden
Jeff Green, John Mann, Paul B. Edwards and Sean Meo. The Tracey Brothers MC.
Jongleurs Comedy Camden Lock,
Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-924 2766). *Tonight*, 7.15pm and 11.15pm; £10.

Edinburgh Preview: Making Sunday Special
The highly successful Girls with Big Jests in a new show.
Wimbledon Studio,
The Broadway, SW19 (0181-542 6141). Tomorrow, 8pm; £5, concs £4.

Channel 4 Sitcom Festival: Week 2
Bleeding Heats by Andy Riley and Kevin Cecil, Paul Shearer and Lenny Barker's *Last Legs* and *The Magnificent Andersons* by Diana Fox and David Upsher.
Riverside Studios,
Crisp Road, W6 (0181-741 2255). Tonight, 8pm; £7.50.

Up the Creek: Benefit
Jo Brand, plus Malcolm Hardee and Ricky Grover.
Up the Creek,
Creek Road, SE10 (0181-858 4581). Tomorrow, 9pm; £6.

■ **REGIONAL**

MANCHESTER
Frog and Bucket Comedy Club
Featuring Ali Jay, Kevin Hayes and Tony Burgess.
Frog and Bucket,
Newton Street (0161-636 9805). Tonight, 8.30pm; £4.

FAIRS / SHOWS

■ **LONDON**

Spitalfields Community Festival
Established event with a multicultural focus.
Spitalfields Market,
Brushfield Street, E1 (0171-375 0441). Tomorrow, 11am-5pm; free.

■ **REGIONAL**

CHEPSTOW
Chepstow Festival 96
Carnival, sports, a beer fest, visual art shows. Weekend highlight is the *Son et Lumière*.
Festival Office,
Various venues (01291-621 399). Today, 11am-midnight, tomorrow, 2pm-midnight; day events, free, *Son et Lumière*, £7.50.

Henley: Thames Boat Rally

GALWAY
Galway Arts Festival
Daytime street performances, music from the Sawdoctors and Kaddish, who explore the Holocaust.
Various venues,
(00353 91 583 800). Today, tomorrow, phone for details.

HENLEY
Traditional Boat Rally
Mess about in boats: skiffs, gigs, punts, launches, canoes. Jazz band, boat jumble, period costume.
Fawley Meadow,
Henley-on-Thames (01932-231 305). Today and tomorrow; £5 a day, or two-day ticket £9, child £1.

IRVINESTOWN
Lady of the Lake Festival
Dog trials, street bands and the Heineken worst singer competition.
Ulster Lakeland Equestrian Park and venues,
(01365-323 110/621 919). Today, 10am-midnight, ends tomorrow, 11am-8.30pm; phone for details.

ST ALBANS
St Albans Festival
Highlight of week-long fest is the *English Civil* War Battle. Also concerts, circus acts, walks and talks.
St Albans Festival,
(01727-844 222). Today, tomorrow, English Civil War Battle, 3pm; £3.

WELLINGBOROUGH
Bug Jam
Volkswagen festival, drag racing, car displays.
Santa Pod Raceway,
Airfield Road (01234-782 828). *Today*, ends tomorrow; weekend, £24, tomorrow, £11.

GOING OUT

GALLERIES

CRITIC'S CHOICE

VISIONS OF LOVE AND LIFE
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery has an incomparable collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings and drawings, which sometimes seems to languish without honour in its own country. Not so in America, where this show of more than 120 works has just wowed critics and public in a five-cities, coast-to-coast tour. It now returns home, supplemented by famous pictures such as Ford Madox Brown's *The Last of England* and Holman Hunt's *The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple*, which were judged too fragile to travel. Foreign approval should engender healthy respect at home and encourage Birmingham to look with new delight on its old treasures.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

***Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery*,**
Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (0121-235 2834). Today, 10am-5pm, tomorrow, 12.30-5pm: free.

■ LONDON

Stephan Balkenhol
Disquieting figurative wooden sculptures from the artist in Saatchi's stable.
Saatchi Gallery,
Boundary Road, NW8 (0171-624 8299). Today, tomorrow, midday-6pm, ends July 28: £3.50.

Peter Fischli, David Weiss
Works redefining everyday objects by the art duo.
Serpentine Gallery,
Kensington Gardens, W2 (0171-402 6075). Today, ends tomorrow, 10am-6pm: free.

The Portable Museum of Marcel Duchamp
Unique opportunity to view those boxes of Duchamp.
Entwistle,
Cork Street, W1 (0171-734 6440). Today, 10am-5.30pm, ends July 27: free.

Birmingham: Ford Madox Brown's *The Last of England*, 1855, in the Pre-Raphaelite exhibition

Sculpting
Work of three young sculptors: Richard Bray, Jacki Parry, Emily Young.
Fine Art Society downstairs,
148 New Bond Street, London W1 (0171-629 5116). Today, 10am-1pm: free.

■ REGIONAL

ABERDEEN
The Colour of Light: Art
Work by Scottish Colourists.
Aberdeen Art Gallery,
Schoolhill (01224-646 333). Today, 10am-5pm, tomorrow, 2-5pm, ends July 27: free.

GLASGOW
Craigie Aitchison
First large survey of paintings to celebrate artist's 80th birthday.
Gallery of Modern Art,
Queen Street (0141-331 1854). Today, 10am-5pm, tomorrow, 11am-5pm: free.

LEEDS
Lois Williams
Elegant and intelligent sculptures made from rope, wax and papier mâché.
Leeds Metropolitan University Gallery,
Calverley Street (0113-283 2600 ext 3339). Today, 10am-3pm: free.

LIVERPOOL
Joan Miró: Printmaker
Engravings and lithographs.
Tate Gallery Liverpool,
Albert Dock (0151-709 3223). Today, tomorrow, 10am-6pm: £2.50.

NORWICH
East International
Established annual open submission exhibition.
Norwich Gallery,
St George's Street (01603-610 561). Today, 10am-5pm: free.

ROCHDALE
Matters of Concern
The late Jo Spence's work in collaboration with Rosy Martin.
Rochdale Art Gallery,
Esplanade (01706-342 154). Today, 10am-4pm: free.

SOUTHAMPTON
Really Out of Order
Pop art on show, plus pieces by contemporary artists working in the 1960s tradition, including work by Bridget Riley and Daniel Sturgis.
John Hansard Gallery,
The University (01703-595 000, ext 2160). Today, 10.30am-5.30pm, ends today: free.

COMING SOON

DEE CONWAY

London: the all-male *corps de ballet* dancing in *Swan Lake*

■ LONDON

From Sep 9
Swan Lake
Matthew Bourne's award-winning version for Adventures in Motion Pictures opens at the Piccadilly Theatre, featuring an all-male *corps de ballet*. Box office: 0171-369 1734.

Sep 11-Oct 26
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?
Diana Rigg and David Suchet are the warring couple in Albee's ferocious comedy, revived by Howard Davies at the Almeida Theatre. Box office: 0171-359 4404.

■ NATIONWIDE

Sep 9-13
Steely Dan
Walter Becker and Donald Fagen reunite to play Wembley Arena, London (Sep 9-10, 0181-900 1234), NEC, Birmingham (Sep 12, 0121-780 4133) and SECC, Glasgow (Sep 13, 0141-248 9999).

■ REGIONAL

EDINBURGH
August 6-31
Traverse Theatre
One of the best Fringe programmes is the Traverse's productions of David Greig's *The Architect* and Chris Hannan's *Shining Souls*, as well as Canada's Da Da Kamera in *Here Lies Henry*, New Zealand's Mark Hadlow in *S.N.A.G (A Sensitive New Aged Guy*, Canada's Clare Coulter in Wallace Shawn's *The Fever* and America's Voyager Productions in Joe Pintauro's *The Spirit*. Box office: 0131-228 1404.

August 18-21
Martha Graham Dance Company
Early works by Graham, created between 1918 and 1947, as part of the Edinburgh International Festival at the Edinburgh Playhouse. Box office: 0131-225 5756.

RELIGION

■ LONDON

***Celebrating Westminster* Catholic Cathedral**
Exhibition of people and objects associated with Westminster Roman Catholic Cathedral. The aim is to show religious items as objects of lasting significance.
Westminster Roman Catholic Cathedral, Victoria Street, London SW1 (0171-798 9055).
11am-4pm daily

■ REGIONAL

WINCHESTER
Southern Cathedrals Festival
Concert with combined cathedral choirs from Chichester, Salisbury and Winchester, with the Sarum Chamber Orchestra. Holy Eucharist at 10.30am. Liturgy of the Foundation with Winchester Cathedral Choir.
Winchester Cathedral,
The Close, Winchester, Hants. Check concert availability at 10a Cathedral Close.
Today and tomorrow.

OPERA

■ LONDON

Don Carlos
Bernard Haitink conducts the Royal Opera House Orchestra and Chorus in Verdi's epic.
Albert Hall,
Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tonight, 6pm: £5-£30.

The Silver Lake
Markus Stenz conducts the London Sinfonietta performing Weill's last work, in a performance sung in German.
Albert Hall,
Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tomorrow, 7.30pm: £4-£18.

■ REGIONAL

BUXTON
Amadigi
The Opera Theatre Company Dublin stage Handel's opera.
Buxton Opera House,
Water Street (0129-872 190). Tonight, 7.30pm: £5-£30.

LEWES
Lulu
Andrew Davis conducts a new production of Alban Berg's opera, directed by Graham Vick.
Glyndebourne Opera House,
(01273-813 813). Today, 5pm: £10-£110.

Yevgeny Onyegin
Graham Vick's staging of Tchaikovsky's classic opera on Pushkin is treated to a Glyndebourne revival.
Glyndebourne Opera House,
(01273-813 813). Tomorrow, 4.10pm: £10-£110.

SOUTH SHIELDS
Don Giovanni
Pimlico Opera Company performs Mozart's black-edged comedy.
Customs House,
Mill Dam (0191-454 1234). Tonight, 7.30pm: £5-£10.

Lewes: *Yevgeny Onyegin* staged at Glyndebourne

WOBURN
Madame Butterfly
A production of Puccini's classic opera performed in a concert given by the company of Gran Teatro La Fenice.
Woburn Abbey,
(01908-234 466). Tonight, 8pm: £24.50-£50.

THEATRE

■ LONDON

Comedy of Errors
The New Shakespeare Company's season opens with Claire Lyth's production of the Bard's double-twin mix-up. Cast includes Debra Beaumont and Paula Wilcox.
Open Air, Regent's Park,
NW1 (0171-486 2431). Today, 2.30pm, 8pm.

Emma
Last of Jane Austen's six novels to be dramatised for stage, cinema or television in the past 12 months. Michael Fry's adaptation adds the framework of a bossy girl who stages a play about the bossy heroine.
King's Head,
Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Today, 3.30pm, 8pm.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

WAR AND PEACE
Is it possible to pack Tolstoy's most majestic novel into four-odd hours on the National's equivalent of Shakespeare's wooden O? Hardly so. But with Shared Experience bringing its skills to the task, and giving its customary stimulus to the audience's imaginations, the narrative whisks along. Watch especially for Richard Hope's rumpled Pierre wrestling with his Tolstoyan conscience, Anne-Marie Duff's vital Natasha learning to distinguish man from man, and David Fielder's peppery Prince Bolkonsky giving several varieties of hell to his daughter, Helen Schlesinger's sensitive Maria.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

***Cottesloe, National Theatre*,**
South Bank, SE1 (0171-620 0741). Tonight, 6.30pm.

The Lights
New play by Howard Korder, author of the superbly tight *Search and Destroy*. Two women and a man journey through an urban purgatory. Ian Rickson directs a vice-versa production, with the audience on the stage watching the action in the auditorium.
Royal Court,
Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). In preview tonight, 7.30pm. Opens July 22.

Martin Guerre
The latest Boublil and Schonberg musical, set to follow the success of *Les Mis* and *Miss Saigon*. Declan Donnellan directs a cast led by Iain Glen and Juliette Caton in a tale based on the true 16th-century story of love, war and identity.
Prince Edward,
Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400). Tonight, 7.45pm; mat, 3pm.

The Phoenician Women
Katie Mitchell's engrossing production of Euripides from last year's Stratford season; highly praised playing by Lorraine Ashbourne and Lucy Whybrow (Jocasta and Antigone).
The Pit, Barbican Centre,
EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm. In rep.

The Red Balloon
Anthony Clark's skilful stage version of the classic 1950s French film. Already seen in Manchester, Bristol and Birmingham, it now comes floating into London.
National, Olivier,
South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Previews from today, 3pm and 7pm.

London: *Martin Guerre*

■ REGIONAL

CARDIFF
Unforgettable
Clarke (*Five Guys Named Moe*) Peters takes his tribute to Nat King Cole in an entertaining show.
New Theatre,
Park Place (01222-878 889). Tonight, 7.30pm; mat, 3pm.

SCARBOROUGH
A Going Concern
Stephen Jeffreys's enjoyable family drama, set in the workshops of a firm making bar billiards machines. The time is the 1960s and changes are afoot. Robin Herford directs.
Stephen Joseph,
Valley Bridge Parade (01723-370 541). Tonight, 7.30pm.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
Troilus and Cressida
Joseph Fiennes and Victoria Hamilton play the title roles in Ian Judge's production.
Royal Shakespeare,
Waterside (01789-295 623). In preview today, 1pm and 7pm.

DANCE

LONDON

Blitz '96
Performance and workshop festival covering many styles of dance.
Festival Hall Foyer and Ballroom Floor,
South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tomorrow, times vary; phone for details.

English National Ballet: Alice in Wonderland
Adapted from Lewis Carroll with choreography by Derek Deane set to Tchaikovsky's music.
London Coliseum,
St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300). Today 2.30pm and 7.30pm: £4-£35.

English National Ballet School: End of Year Performance
Graduates perform new works by Christopher Hampson and Michel Rahn.
Britten Theatre, Royal College of Music,
Prince Consort Road, SW7 (0171-602 7297). Tonight, 5.30pm; £10.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

ROYAL BALLET
Covent Garden's summer dance season features one of Kenneth MacMillan's most popular full-length ballets — the sexy potboiler *Manon*. Two ballerinas take on the role of the 18th-century courtesan brought down by her own avarice. At the matinée Sarah Wildor, one of the Royal Ballet's brightest hopes, dances Manon; this evening it is the turn of French ballerina Sylvie Guillem, who has made the role her own.

DEBRA CRAINE

***Royal Opera House*,**
Covent Garden, London WC2 (0171-304 4000). Today, 2pm and 7pm.

Royal Ballet School: Folk Dance and Ballet Programme
New works by Christopher Wheeldon and Jennifer Jackson, plus *En Bateau* by David Bintley and Ninette de Valois's *The Rake's Progress*.
Holland Park Theatre, Holland Park,
Kensington High Street, W8 (0171-602 7856). Tonight, 8pm, mat, 2.30pm; £17.

■ REGIONAL

COVENTRY
Festival of Festivals
Dance, music and drama performed by community groups.
Warwick Arts Centre,
University of Warwick (01203-524 524). Tonight, tomorrow, 6-9pm, mats, 10am-1pm and 2-5pm; phone for details.

EPSOM
New Choreographers Season: Programme 2
New dancemakers tonight are Amanda Banks and Nathaniel Reed, *Eidotrope*, the *Hurly Burley* Hoofers and the Barriedale Opera House.
Epsom Playhouse,
Ashley Avenue (01372-742 555). Today, 2.30pm; £10: season ticket £25.

London: Sylvie Guillem

INVERNESS
Fall of Bright Water
Work inspired by Gavin Maxwell and the Highlands.
Eden Court Theatre,
Bishop's Road (01463-221 718). Tonight, 8pm; £6.

MANCHESTER
Lord of the Dance
Michael Flatley's new Celtic dance extravaganza.
Apollo Theatre,
Ardwick Green (0161-242 2560). Tonight, 7.45pm; £14.50-£22.50.

BOOKS

■ LONDON

Writers' Workshop
Guidance for writers, with special attention paid to the women's magazine market.
Holborn Centre for Performing Arts,
Three Cups Yard, Sandland Street, WC1 (0181-346 7487). Tomorrow, 10.30am-4.30pm; £20.

■ REGIONAL

GLASGOW
Integration
Readings of poems produced by the workshop participants.
Centre for Contemporary Arts,
Sauchiehall Street (0141-332 7521). Tonight, 7.30pm: free.

YORK
York Poetry Slam
Vote for the best work read during the evening in this poetry competition.
Spotted Cow,
Barbican Road (01757-707 886). Tomorrow, 7.30pm; £3.50, performers £2.

Ruth Gledhill is shocked by the interior of Heslington parish church

Looking through a glass darkly

SOMEWHERE in west London, there is a theatre that resembles the worst kind of 1970s office building from the outside but once inside, it is a thespian's haven in traditional red-and-gold theatrical style. Heslington parish church is this theatre seen through a glass darkly — it is the opposite way around. Its 19th-century grey stone, stalwartly traditional in a neatly mown graveyard near the heart of an unspoilt typical Yorkshire village, invites the newcomer to think: "This is just what I would expect from a country parish church." I had not been warned of a Seventies re-ordering, and thus it was a shock to be confronted by the exposed concrete ceiling, the plasterboard, the inhospitable flourescent lighting, the "high-quality building blocks" that looked like breeze blocks but were said to be quite different, the pine-like pews that faced coldly north instead of east. I sat near a tiny chapel on the east side, the former chancel from Ronald Sims's original church, with its carved pews, golden eagle lectern and reredos shimmering with gold, the chapel sparkling behind the glass wall, shielding it from the rest of the church, a heartbreaking witness to what this church might once have been.

Strangely, the lack of visual stimulation added impetus to concentration on the word. Facing the building blocks enlivened only by the red splash of modern wall hangings behind the nondescript altar, our service began.

"We look for God there when actually He is here," we heard later in the sermon. "Yes here, and we may draw near in faith with thanksgiving." The church was packed with bishops, some in purple shirts and some disguised as laity in collar and tie, as well as clergy and genuine laity. Heslington is next door to York University, the stage for the summer meeting of the Church of England's General Synod. The synod is Britain's only legislative body outside Parliament, and in York the 500-plus members, some elected and others there by virtue of their place in the spiritual hierarchy, this time were discussing complex issues such as how long church wardens should be allowed to serve, and whether hell existed or not. (They decided it didn't, or if it did it was closer to "nothingness" than the fire-and-brimstone pit of our imagination.)

Psalm 39 at this service, two days after the debate on hell, could have been written with all in mind. "I will keep a watch upon my ways, so that I do not offend with my tongue: I will keep a guard on my mouth while the wicked are in my sight," we heard. "I will put a muzzle on my mouth while the wicked are in my presence," we responded. "I refrained from rash words; but my pain became unbearable," we heard.

In the communion service that followed morning prayer, the Bishop of Worcester, the Right Rev Philip Goodrich, preached and celebrated. He referred to the long-distant wars conducted by people with unpronounceable names in our readings. Today, there were uncertainties over the ozone layer and nuclear weapons. As were the ancient biblical warriors: "In the face of these many things which we may be helpless to control, we are told by God himself to trust him and stand firm," he said. As synod members prepared for the journey home, they should be "looking forward to entering the next century, looking forward to doing what lies before us with cheerfulness and sincerity of heart".

Members of the General Synod met for worship at St Paul's Parish Church, Heslington, York YO1 5EE (01904 410389)

AT YOUR SERVICE

★ *A five-star guide* ★

VICAR: Canon Geoffrey Hunter

ARCHITECTURE: unbelievable. ★

SERMON: Bishop of Worcester attempted to make sense of Bible texts that sounded nonsensical when we heard them read. "If I had been choosing them I don't think I would have chosen these," he admitted at the start. ★★★★

MUSIC: choir made up of synod members sang like birds. ★★

LITURGY: the more traditional Rite B from the 1980 *Alternative Service Book*, with satisfying "thee's" and "thou's". ★★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: conciliatory. ★★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Synod members enjoyed splendid breakfast at a York University hall of residence. ★★★★

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AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES READER PROMOTION

Take a child to the zoo – FREE

Buy one adult ticket and a child goes free

The Times, in association with The Federation of Zoos, gives you the opportunity take a child free when you spend a fun day at the zoo.

There are 41 locations to choose from and you can save up to £6 on the cost of entry. You can take advantage of this offer any day from next Wednesday, July 24 until August 31, with the exception of Bank Holiday Monday, August 26.

Visiting a zoo today is an exciting experience for a child. At the Lakeland Wildlife Oasis, Cumbria, for instance, children can handle iguanas, drape snakes around their necks and even have giant, hairy Shelob, the tarantula spider, creeping across their hand as fruitbats fly around their heads. They can also scramble underneath the meerkats' sand pit enclosure to pop up, protected under a perspex dome, to meet the cheeky, inquisitive creatures face to face.

Besides touching the (for some of us) untouchable, at Edinburgh children can examine skins, skulls and bones on the touch tables. And at 2pm every day the penguins there come out to stroll around the lawn amongst the visitors.

Nearly rubbing noses with an American alligator — safely behind a toughened glass screen — is one of the favourite attractions at Thrigby Hall, near Great Yarmouth. This is typical of the imaginative way in which today's zoos introduce children to wild and dangerous animals.

Children can eyeball the American alligator at Thrigby Hall, Great Yarmouth

At the Manor House Wildlife and Leisure Park, Pembrokeshire, children are allowed to help the keepers bottle feed young animals. They also learn how eggs hatch and watch the young birds emerge from their shells in an incubator.

Although just gazing at animals through fencing or glass is fascinating, most zoos offer much, much more than that nowadays.

Children can enjoy talks by the animals' knowledgeable keepers and ply them with questions; listen to exciting stories about animals; watch videos explaining all about animal-habits and habitats; join in teddy bears' picnics; find out about the mysterious and threatened world of rainforests; or weave their way through a Darwin maze where the famous naturalist's theory of evolution comes to life.

At Bristol Zoo there is a new invertebrate house where, among the many special experiences, is one not to be missed — locusts swarming around you.

The Chestnut Centre, set in the hills of the Peak District National Park, houses Europe's largest collection of otters and owls, including Britain's only pair of giant otters. You can meander through historic wooded parkland to watch the otters and owls in their award-winning enclosures in near natural surroundings.

And, of course, there is the chance to adopt an animal, a popular partnership which gives joy as well as education to children for years and helps to support breeding programmes for endangered species.

All the zoos participating in our offer have facilities for picnics or a choice of restaurants, souvenir shops and children's play areas. They also have special events such as the Kids Paradise Day on July 28 at Paradise Park, Hayle, near St Ives, so it is worth calling to check what's on.

The Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland is a charity, established in 1966, which represents the interests of 60 zoological and wildlife collections.

Its members support work in the wild and raise money for field projects: in the last six years they have supported 69 programmes in 36 different countries. They carry out scientific research, particularly with endangered species, and scientifically-managed breeding programmes.

Their conservation projects are not exclusively targeted at exotic species. Currently they are involved in recovery programmes for British species such as the red squirrel, otter, Scottish wildcat, sand lizard, field cricket and several species of moth.

All Federation zoos have some form of education programme which rely on the zoo's greatest asset — the living animal. And the Federation has always been involved in animal welfare issues. One of its first aims was to establish principles of animal management and to enforce minimum standards of care, welfare and safety.

The Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain & Ireland

BANHAM ZOO
The Grove, Banham, Norfolk NR16 2HE. Tel: 01953 887 773
Admission: Adults £5.95
Children £3.95 under 4s free

BATTERSEA PARK CHILDREN'S ZOO
Battersea Park, London SW11 4NJ. Tel: 0181-871 7540
Admission: Adults £1
Children 50p under 2s free

CITY OF BELFAST ZOO
Hazelwood, Antrim Road, Belfast BT36 7PN
Tel: 01-232 776 277
Admission: Adults £4.50
Children £2.25 under 4s free

BLACKPOOL ZOO PARK
East Park Drive, Blackpool FY3 8PP. Tel: 01253 765 027
Admissions: Adults £4.50
Children £2.50 under 3s free

BRISTOL ZOO GARDENS
Clifton, Bristol BS8 3HA
Tel: 0117-9706 176
Admissions: Adults £5.90
Children £2.80 under 3s free

CHESTER ZOO
Upton-by-Chester CH2 1LH
Tel: 01244 380 280
Admission: Adults £7.50
Children £5 under 3s free

CHESTNUT CENTRE
Castleton Road, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire SK12 6PE
Tel: 01298 814 099
Admission: Adults £4.00
Children £2 under 4s free

COLCHESTER ZOO
Maldon Road, Stanway, Essex CO3 5SL
Tel: 01206 331 292
Admission: Adults £6.50
Children £4.50 under 3s free

Hari, a seven-month-old Sumatran tiger cub, at London Zoo

NEWQUAY ZOO
Trenance Park, Newquay, Cornwall TR7 2LZ
Tel: 01637 873 342
Admission: Adults £4.30
Children 6-16 £2.80 2-5 £1

COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK
Burford, Oxon OX18 4JW
Tel: 01993 823 006
Admission: Adults £4.90
Children £3.20 under 4s free

CRICKET ST. THOMAS WILDLIFE & LEISURE PARK
Chard, Somerset TA20 4DD
Tel: 01460 30755
Admission: Adults £7.50
Children £6 under 4s free

CURRAGHS WILDLIFE PARK
Ballaugh, Isle of Man IN7 5EA. Tel: 01624 897 323
Admission: Adults £3
Children £1.50 under 5s free

DARTMOOR WILDLIFE PARK
Sparkwell, Plymouth, Devon PL7 5DG. Tel: 01752 837 645
Admission: Adults £5.45
Children £3.50 under 4s free

DUBLIN ZOO
Phoenix Park, Dublin
Tel:01-677 1425
Admission: Adults IR£5.50
Children IR£3 under 3s free

DUDLEY ZOO AND CASTLE
2 The Broadway, Dudley, West Midlands
Tel: 01384 215 300
Admission: Adults £5.25
Children £3.45 under 3s free

EDINBURGH ZOO
Murrayfield, Edinburgh
Tel: 0131-334 9171
Admission: Adults £5.80
Children £3 under 3s free

EXMOOR ZOOLOGICAL PARK
Bratton Fleming, Near Barnstaple, North Devon
Tel: 01598 763 352
Admission: Adults £3.95
Children £2.25 under 3s free

GATWICK ZOO AND AVIARIES
Russ Hill, Charlwood, Surrey RH6 0EG. Tel: 01293 862 312
Admission: Adults £3.95
Children £2.95 under 3s free

GLASGOW ZOO
Uddingston, Glasgow
Tel: 0141-771 1185
Admission: Adults £4.25
Children £2.50 under 3s free

HAMERTON WILDLIFE CENTRE
Hamerton, Huntingdon Cambs. PE17 5RE
Tel: 01832 293 362
Admission: Adults £3.80
Children £2.20 under 4s free

HAREWOOD HOUSE AND BIRD GARDEN
Harewood House, Leeds LS17 9NQ. Tel: 01132 886 238
Admission: Adults £6
Children £4 under 4s free

JERSEY WILDLIFE PRESERVATION TRUST
Les Augres Manor, Trinity, Jersey JE3 5BF
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LAKELAND WILDLIFE OASIS
Hale, Milnthorpe, Cumbria
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Admission: Adults £4.50
Children £2.50 under 4s free

LINTON ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS
Hadstock Road, Linton, Cambs. CB1 6NT
Tel: 01223 891 308
Admission: Adults £4
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LONDON ZOO
Regents Park London NW1 4RY. Tel: 0171-722 3333
Admission: Adults £7.50
Children £5.50 under 4s free

MANOR HOUSE WILDLIFE & LEISURE PARK
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MARWELL ZOOLOGICAL PARK
Colden Common, Winchester, Hants SO21 1JH
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Admission: Adults £7
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MOLE HALL WILDLIFE PARK
Widdington, Newport, Essex CB11 3SS
Tel: 01799 540 400
Admission: Adults £4
Children £2.60 under 3s free

THE OWL CENTRE
Muncaster Castle, Ravenglass, Cumbria
Tel: 01229 717 393
Admission: Adults £3.40
Children £1.90 under 5s free

A hand-reared Asian otter at Chestnut Conservation Park

PAIGNTON ZOO
Totnes Road, Paignton, Devon TQ4 7EU. Tel: 01803 557 479
Admission: Adults £5.95
Children £3.50 under 3s free

PALACERIGG COUNTRY PARK
Cumbernauld, Scotland
Tel: 01236 720 047
Admission: Adults £2 with car, £1 without car
Children 50p under 5s free

PARADISE PARK
Hayle, Nr St Ives, Cornwall TR27 4RY. Tel: 01736 753365
Admission: Adults £4.95
Children £2.95

PENSCYNOR WILDLIFE PARK
Cilfrew, Neath, Wales
Tel: 01639 642 189
Admission: Adults £5
Children £3 under 3s free

SHALDON WILDLIFE TRUST
Ness Drive, Shaldon, Devon TQ14 0HP. Tel: 01626 872 234
Admission: Adults £2.50
Children £1.50 under 3s free

SOUTH LAKES WILD ANIMAL PARK
Crossgates, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria. Tel: 01229 466 086
Admission: Adults £3.25
Children £2.25 under 3s free

SOUTHPORT ZOO
Princes Park, Southport, Merseyside PR8 1RX
Tel: 01704 538 102
Admission: Adults £2.50
Children £1.50 under 2s free

SUFFOLK WILDLIFE PARK
Whites Lane, Kessingland, Near Lowestoft, Suffolk
Tel: 01502 740 291
Admission: Adults £5.50
Children £3.50 under 4s free

THRIGBY HALL WILDLIFE GARDENS
Thrigby Hall, Filby, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
Tel: 01493 369 477
Admission: Adults £4.50
Children £3 under 4s free

TWYCROSS ZOO
Atherstone, Warwickshire
Tel: 01827 880 250
Admission: Adults £4.75
Children £2.75 under 3s free

WELSH MOUNTAIN ZOO
Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, Wales
Tel: 01492 532 938
Admission: Adults £5.50
Children £3.30 under 3s free

YORKSHIRE DALES FALCONRY & CONSERVATION CENTRE
Crows Nest, Near Gigglewick, Settle, North Yorkshire. Tel: 01729 822 832
Admission: Adults £4.25
Children £2.50 under 5s free

Popping in to the meerkats' sand pit enclosure at the Lakeland Wildlife Oasis, Cumbria

Simply collect four differently numbered tokens from the six we will print in *The Times* and attach them to the voucher (right). One token is already attached. Another token will be printed on Monday and more will appear every day until the final one next Friday. Complete the details on the voucher and present it at the ticket office of the zoo you decide to visit.

You will be entitled to free child entry when paying one full adult admission. The voucher can only be used for one visit to any attraction.

OFFER CONDITIONS

The offer is valid for one free child entry when accompanied by one paying adult.

The offer applies from July 24 to August 31, 1996, inclusive (excluding Bank Holiday Monday, August 26).

One voucher per household. Any additional visitors in your party, children or adults, must pay the full admission prices. Vouchers must be accompanied by four Times/Zoo tokens.

This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

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This voucher, with four Times/Zoo tokens attached, entitles the bearer to free entry for one child, when accompanied by one paying adult to any one of more than forty zoos as listed in *The Times* on Saturday, July 20, 1996. Offer valid from July 24 to August 31, 1996 inclusive (excluding Bank Holiday Monday, August 26). This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Full terms and conditions were printed in *The Times* on Saturday, July 20, 1996.

THE TIMES
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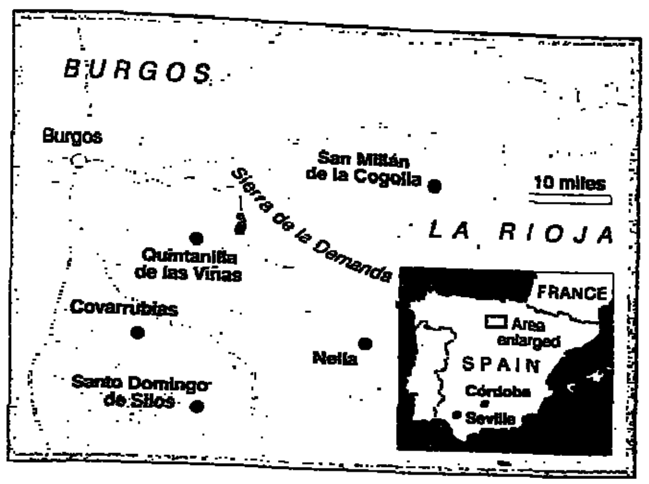
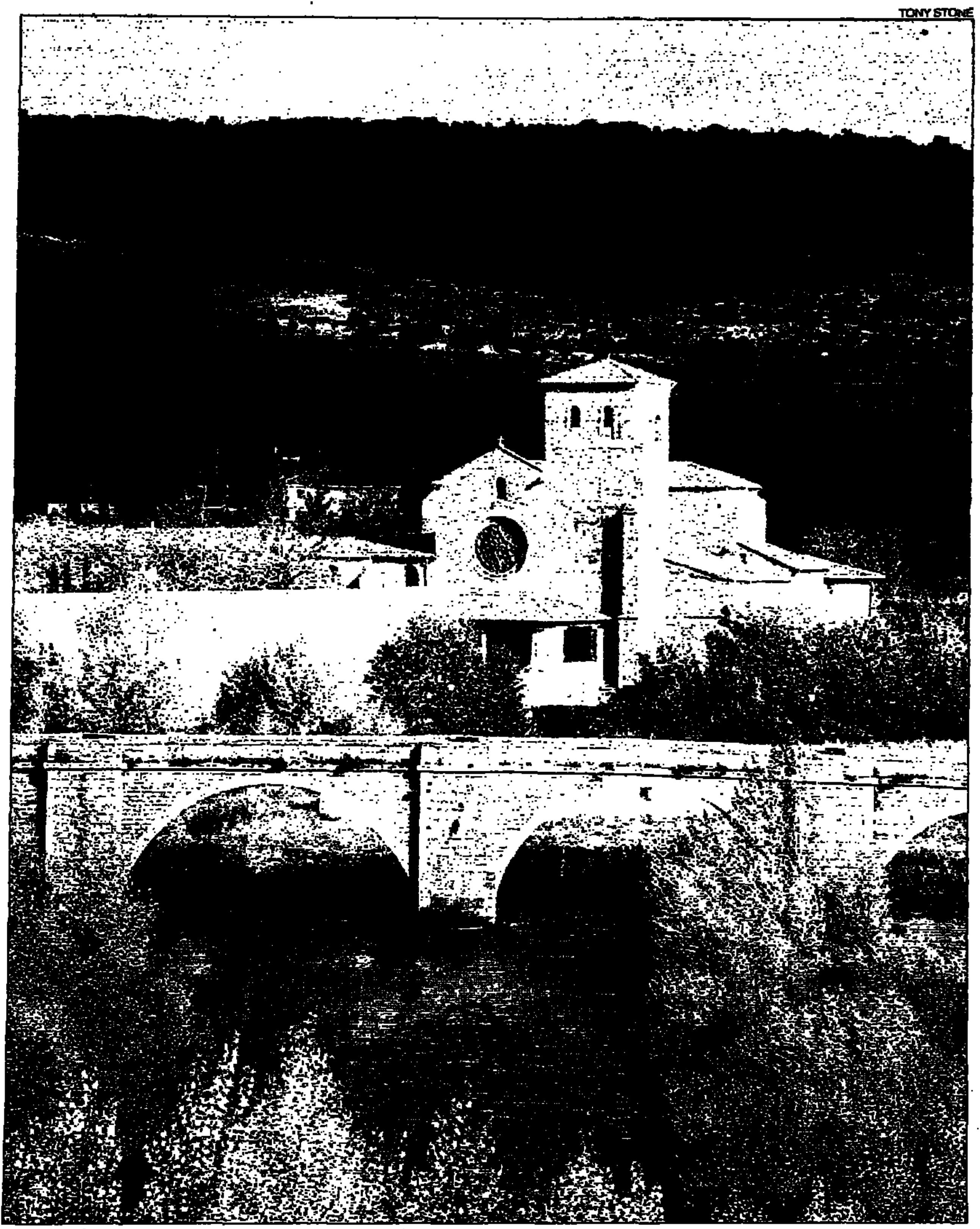
Spain: mountain walking without tears in the Castilian heartland, or a train journey through Andalucia

Trail of treats across the high sierra



TONY STONE



The ancient walled town of Covarrubias makes a relaxing starting-point for a walk into the Sierra de la Demanda

You have walked all morning in 30-degree heat and you are nearing the end of a 2,000ft climb. Your water bottle is empty, your energy reserves low. Apart from your fellow walkers, the only sign of life is a flock of sheep on a distant hillside.

You reach the crest and what do you see? A perfectly laid picnic table, with bread and wine and cheese and salad and a big basket of fruit, all neatly arranged on a red-and-white check tablecloth.

A mirage? Merely a holiday feature provided by the Alternative Travel Group. The idea behind the group's "journeys" (guided walks along a continuous route) is simple: you do the walking and the group takes care of everything else. It's not walking for softies, exactly — the walks, though optional, are tough enough — but it's certainly walking for those who appreciate their comforts. And it seems to be a winning formula. Of 12 people in my party, I was the only ATG "virgin". Richard, from Northumberland, was on his 13th trip in as many years; Mimi had flown over from Maryland for her fifth. Harold had completed ten journeys in three years and was taking the eleventh "courtesy of the company, a standard offer."

We had chosen the sierras of Rioja, in northern Spain. I was familiar with the Spanish periphery — Andalucia, Catalonia, Majorca — but had never spent much time in the Castilian heartland which *aficionados* describe as the true Spain. Besides, the word Rioja had a certain wine-soaked appeal.

The name is slightly mischievous: less than half the trip is in the province of La Rioja. We began in Covarrubias, known as the "cradle of Castile" for its role in the unification and reconquest of Spain from the Moors. The local hero, Fernan Gonzalez, was the first Count of Castile and is buried in the collegiate church, where coachloads of visitors arrive each day to pay homage. At night the walled town takes on a new look as locals spill into the plazas of half-timbered, stilted houses to gossip, dance and play cards at tables in the evening sun. I could have stayed for days, but this was a journey and we had to move on.

Our first walk took us to Quintanilla de las Vinas, where we picnicked under an oak tree looking down over the patchwork of red earth and green fields that is the Spanish plain. The 7th-century Visigothic church here is one of the oldest in Spain, with its original horseshoe arch and stone carvings, including the earliest Spanish representation of Christ, sandwiched between the sun and moon as a concession to paganism.

The next day we reached Santo Domingo de Silos, a small town of golden stone houses huddled around a monastery which hit the big time a couple of years back when its monks reached the pop charts with their recording of a Gregorian chant. We arrived just in time for vespers. Exhausted after a 15-mile walk, I dozed off to the sound of plainsong.

After a good night's sleep I returned to the church for Mass, then looked around the 10th-century cloisters. Sunlight threw shadows on the stone, a tall cypress tree shone through the arches, pigeons drank from a fountain … the works of God and man in perfect harmony.

From here we climbed into the mountains, as scrubland dotted with wild peonies and violets gave way to cool forests of pine and birch. On foot you really notice how each shift in altitude leads to a subtle change in the landscape. High on a ridge we came across a farmer with a group of mares and foals. "What do you keep these for?" someone asked. "*Para carne*," for meat, he replied, putting several people off their lunchtime chorizo.

At Neila we walked above the snowline (even in June) on an Alpine ridge, looking down over glacial lakes formed by melting winter snows. This is Spain's great outdoors, a national park of hiking trails and mountain refuges, home to walkers, cyclists and anglers. We dropped through oak and pine and flowering heather, gazing across at our next and biggest challenge: the Sierra de la Demanda.

Now we were in La Rioja and the serious walking began. It took three days to cross the range, climbing to a pass each morning and dropping to a valley each night. The longest day's walk was 17 miles. But every day there was the picnic to focus our thoughts, and each night we arrived at a new hotel to find our luggage waiting in our rooms and a meal being prepared in the kitchen — hearty Castilian stews with chickpeas, beans and sausages or roasts cooked for hours in a wood-burning oven.

And the wines… well, we were in Rioja, after all. We drank the best that the region produces, and there seemed to be no limit. Like everything else, wine is included in the cost of the holiday so that the only money you need is small change for postcards, ice-creams and the occasional sherry. Menus and wine lists are worked out in advance. "The only decision you have to make on these trips, one veteran said, "is whether to have coffee after dinner."

A tour leader accompanies the walks, identifying birds and flowers and saving you the need to take a map. Meanwhile the tour manager drives ahead with the luggage and prepares the picnic. The young staff are sickeningly talented: they know their languages, their history, their wines and, when a guide in one church asked whether anyone could play the organ, it was our leader, old Etonian Edward Granville, who volunteered.

Our final walk followed an old pilgrim trail between two monasteries. On the day we went it was deserted: when we found wild orchids and magnificent butterflies crossed our path, it occurred to me that if we had not come this way, no one would ever have known they were there.

Finally we reached San Millán de la Cogolla, a town which has grown up around the legend of the eponymous San Millán, a 6th-century shepherd who became a cave hermit and lived to the age of 101. We came to a clearing in the woods and looked down over the town, where the mountains meet the plain. There was the massive monastery, within whose walls we would spend the night in a luxury hotel; there were the vegetable gardens, tended by the monks; there was a jumble of brown houses and red roofs. And there, behind us, were the mountains we had crossed.

The idea of the journey suddenly made sense. After eight days and 102 miles, we had arrived — and the champagne was waiting for us.

TONY KELLY

- *The author was a guest of Alternative Travel Group.*

FACT FILE

■ The Alternative Travel Group, 69-71 Banbury Road, Oxford 0X2 6PE (01865 513333) offers an 11-day trip in September for £1,340, including flights, accommodation and all food and wine. There is a single supplement of £125.

■ A pair of sturdy, worn-in walking boots is essential. It is also useful to take a small day pack for sun hat, sun cream, sunglasses, insect repellent, water bottle, binoculars and camera.

■ Shorts are fine for walking but long trousers and long-sleeved, collared shirts provide better protection from sun and gorse. Be prepared for a downpour by carrying light waterproofs.

■ For the evenings, take smart casual clothes which do not need ironing. A jacket and tie is not necessary for men.

■ The area is sparsely covered in guidebooks but ***Spain: The Rough Guide*** (Rough Guides, £9.99) gives useful background on the country.

TRAVEL DIRECTORY

WORLD GOLF

Why more than 80,000 British golfers will be teeing-off in the sun this year — even though there may be lions among the birdies

PAGES 20,21

TURKEY

Walking tourists are mad say the locals in country areas, because there are no maps. But it's the only way to see the beauty of the remoter parts

PAGE 22

BRITAIN

The Victorian railway barons were daft to build it, but the Carlisle-Settle line must be the most thrilling journey in the country

PAGE 23

TRAVEL TIPS, PAGE 25

Diadema mitillarum
(Long-Spined Urchin)

Latrodectus mactans
(Black Widow Spider)

Muggus thugeri
(Common Hoodlum)

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Going loco to Seville

TONY STONE

The mosque at Córdoba, formerly the capital of Moorish Spain

There are fast trains, slow trains and trains that go in circles. But there are few that offer such a contrast between the new and the old in train travel than in Spain.

The Ave Express, prince of the European bullet trains, whistles between Madrid and Seville in two-and-a-half hours. The Al Andalus Expreso meanders through the countryside of Andalucia for four days, starting and finishing in Seville.

I boarded the latter, starting with an enjoyable late Sunday morning journey to Córdoba.

The train consists of a mixture of carriages from the 1920s and 1930s, restored and coupled together in 1983. The style is long on marquetry, ornate decoration and opulence, with air conditioning. The result: a trip aimed at those who would enjoy the Orient Express.

The 13 carriages include restaurant cars, a saloon car, a bar car with electronic piano and dance floor, five sleeping carriages and two shower cars. It runs slowly and serenely through the delightful villages, hills and orchards of Andalucia and is most conducive to dozing.

From time to time the train halts to give travellers time to explore. We spent half a day in Córdoba, centred on the old Jewish quarter and the remarkable building which is half mosque and half cathedral, and enjoyed a gargantuan lunch at the Restaurant Almudaina, a delightful 15th-century Jewish building next to the Medina.

Overnight, the train halted at a village station outside Córdoba and we awoke next morning to find ourselves on the way to Granada, for many the jewel of Andalucia. It was one of the treats of the year to visit the Alhambra Palace and the incomparable Generalife Gardens with only my train companions in attendance.

The modern town of Granada is dire, an ugly splash of new concrete and lax planning. This makes the unexpected sight of the beautiful old town, all white Moorish buildings and narrow alleys, with the stunning backdrop of the Alhambra Palace, all the more astounding.

In each courtyard and garden there are fountains, so the sound of running water is always in the background, the water coming from the melted snows of the Sierra Nevada which in turn is the backdrop to Granada.

Next morning we set off for Ronda. Our solitary progress along a single-track line though unspoilt landscape, stopping informally at village stations *en route*, called to mind what rail travel across the American midwest must have been like in the 1890s. We were taken into the countryside by bus for a huge lunch at the Finca La Bobadilla, half ranch and half country club.

Ronda, scene of the last great rising of the Moors against Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, has the oldest bullring in Spain, incorporating a museum. The town is built on the edge of cliffs which drop hundreds of feet to the swirling river below. It was from these cliffs that Franco's army threw 500 republicans into the river during the civil war.

Next day, a coach ride to Marbella had been laid on, but I chose to spend the day wandering around Ronda. Then it was on through the rain-drenched fields back to Seville. Normally the rain would have been depressing, but our Spanish hosts were so delighted to see it after six years of drought that their enthusiasm was catching.

In Seville we watched a heart-tugging flamenco show — no dancing I have seen has ever made me feel so good.

If you are a true connoisseur of Andalucia, a train may not be the best mode of travel. But this train certainly is a delight, and so are the people who run it. It isn't cheap but it is wonderfully comfortable and escapist for five days.

There was a mobile phone in the lounge car if you wanted to call home, but I never found anyone using it.

MICHAEL SISSONS

- *The author was a guest of Cox and Kings Travel.*

ANDALUCIA FACT FILE

■ Cox and Kings Travel, 4th Floor, Gordon House, 10 Greencoat Place, London SW1P 1PH (0171-873 5000, fax 0171-630 6038), offers five nights twin-share accommodation aboard the Andalus Express, one night twin-share at the Hotel Tryp Colon, return flights from Heathrow to Seville, and all meals from breakfast on days 2-7 from £1,425 for departures on Sept 14, 21 and 28, and Oct 12, 19 and 26. Single supplement (all dates) £240; deluxe cabin supplement (all dates) £125; suite supplement (all dates) £250.

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Golf: as the British Open swings into action, many club players' minds turn to blending holidays…

Lions among the birdies

ZIMBABWE

At more than 100F in the shade, the prospect of a round of golf at Elephant Hills Golf Club in Victoria Falls was not that appealing. If any further disincentive was needed, the notice from the general manager warning of the presence of lions on the fairways, and disclaiming any responsibility for personal injury, provided an even better excuse for remaining in the cool of the 19th hole.

However, it was a beautiful day and the well-wooded, well-watered course lay before us. More importantly, the caddies, while conceding that they had seen the lions, seemed relaxed. So we drove off, neatly dividing the group of warthogs on the fairway. We rather regretted the absence of the great white hunter who had joined our game in the peaceful surroundings of the Royal Harare club a few days earlier. Without him, we would have to defend ourselves with, perhaps, a seven iron in the event of an attack.

Happily, the only threat came close to the water at the short 15th when my mishit nine-iron shot landed close to a sleeping crocodile. I was allowed a free drop. Apart from these hazards, the course is delightful and the company of the warthogs, impala and dozens of chattering baboons adds to the fun.

The 72-par course is attractively laid out, with wide fairways and some splendid trees — especially a huge baobob tree, estimated by locals to be between 500 and 1,000 years old.

Considering the heat, it is a relief that most of the holes are fairly flat. Helpful local rules include advice that "warthog damage may be treated as Ground Under Repair" and, confusingly, "Termites are not classed as burrowing animals". Overlooking the course is the Elephant Hills hotel, which has 270 bedrooms, decorated in traditional African style, tennis and squash courts and a bowling green.

Smaller, with 72 bedrooms, is the Victoria Falls Safari hotel in a lush country setting with wonderful views from every room. From the restaurant terrace you can see the nearby waterhole where elephants, lions and buffalo come to drink.

Victoria Falls is a must in the golfer's Zimbabwe itinerary. The falls are pleasantly uncommercialised, despite a large increase in visitors in recent years with the introduction of direct flights from South Africa.

The Victoria Falls hotel remains as elegant and imposing as ever and is being extensively refurbished. The walk from the beautiful gardens down the park to the Falls takes about 15 minutes and, if you go early, abundant wildlife can be seen and heard.

Harare, the capital, is well provided with excellent golf courses. I recommend Royal Harare (par 72, length 6,467 metres), Chapman Golf Club (par 72, length 6,514 metres), both near the centre of the city, and the delightful Ruwa Country Club, which is about half an hour's drive from the others.

Royal Harare is a little grander than Chapman's but both are splendid ambassadorial residences. If you are held up by the players in front, it is pleasantly distracting to watch the shining Mercedes sweep through the gateways. Is this a hive of diplomatic activity, or is it the ambassador's wife's turn to host the bridge party?

Both courses reflect the foresight of the original committees in planting a remarkable array of trees and shrubs: between late September and early October the jacaranda trees are in full bloom and the beautiful, purplish blossom is dazzling. The Zimbabwe Open alternates between each course.

Ruwa Country Club (par 72, 6,344 metres) is about 18 miles outside Harare on the way to the Eastern Highlands. The well designed course has a charming thatched clubhouse manned by an enthusiastic staff.

Harare is the point of arrival for many visitors to Zimbabwe and, after a long flight, you can stay either at a city-centre hotel, such as Meikles, or at one of the lodges on the outskirts. The city hosts many conferences and has several international hotels. Meikles dates back to the First World War and has expanded a lot in recent years. It has four restaurants and seven bars and is in the middle of the main shopping centre, with a pleasant walk across the gardens to the cathedral.

Imba Matomob Lodge, which is about a 15-minute drive from Meikles, has extremely comfortable, individual lodges allowing total privacy for the guests. It is an ideal place to relax after a tiring journey, with its 25-metre long swimming pool, and a good base for local golfing and other activities.

Close to Ruwa Country Club is Landela Lodge which offers a choice of things to do apart from golf, including riding. It, too, has a swimming pool and pretty gardens.

The last course we visited was at Leopard Rock, a four-hour drive from Harare on the Mozambique border. A superb course in the foothills of the Vumba Mountains (par 71, length 6,151 metres), it is part of the grounds of the Leopard Rock hotel.

As in other parts of the country, there are an amazing range of trees and wildlife here. The hotel has a list of 887 different birds in the area.

Some advice for all golfers in Zimbabwe: take advantage of the local custom followed by all the courses and have a break for refreshment after nine holes, and put a bottle or two of water in your golf bag.

BRIAN NICHOLSON

● *The author was a guest of Sunsport Tours*

■ **MORE than 80,000 golfers are this year expected to cash in on the plunging cost of playing some of the world's finest courses, *writes Harvey Elliott*. So many new courses have been built that competition is fierce for their custom. Greg Olszowski, marketing manager of Longshott Golf Holidays, says that the Algarve remains the top seller, with Spain coming up fast.**

There are also more women players this year. "Men's tours are being replaced by couples' and women's holidays with golf," he says. The boom is gathering pace so fast that Thomson is pleading with players to warn in advance that they will be bringing clubs so that the aircraft can be loaded correctly.

■ **PRICES for golf breaks range from £299 for a three-day B&B stay in Spain to about £11,000 for a 30-day round-the-world tour taking in 15 different courses.**

TONY STONE

The Victoria Falls and nearby hotels are a must on any golfer's Zimbabwe itinerary

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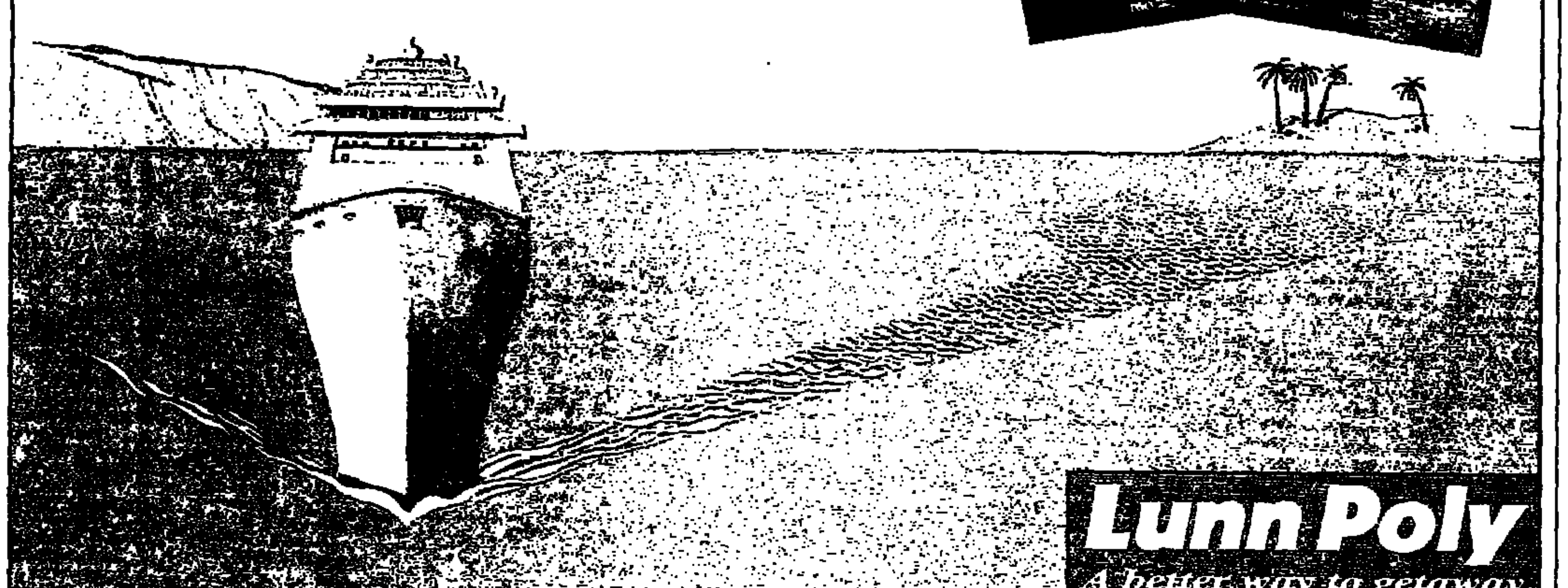
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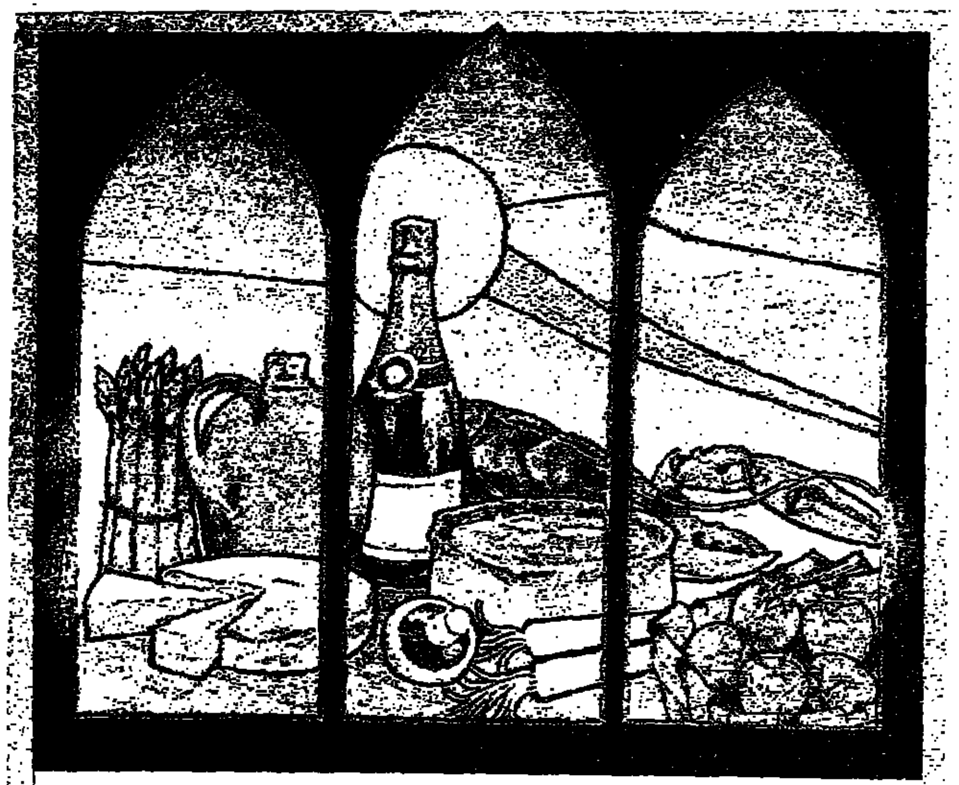

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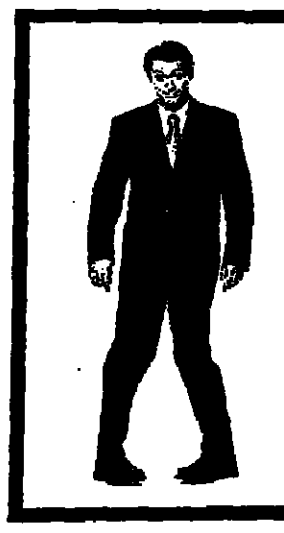

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MATTHEW COOK

PHOENIX

FOR LOVERS of westerns, desert golf takes place in familiar territory. Blue-green sagebush stretches to wide horizons. The indigenous three-pronged saguaro cactus stands in distinctive silhouette on rocky hillsides. A runaway stagecoach would complete the picture, but if one were to appear here in the Phoenix area the horses would be pulled up short by acres of greensward in places nature never intended.

In the 1990s Arizona has established itself as a leading player in the international golf league, with heavily watered and impeccably manicured courses hacked out of arid sand. The rough is cactus scrub, so wayward balls usually have to be dropped rather than played. Even searching for them can be perilous in the shadow of tee-side notices which read, "Beware of rattlesnakes".

The golf course at The Phoenician resort within the Phoenix city limits is the *raison d'être* for a five-star complex dedicated to providing what is described as "a positive golfing experience".

THIS MEANS that it is celebrity-led: Virginia Wade and Sir David Frost exchange pleasantries over the check-in procedure as a bellhop, garbed as a gaucho, tries to locate luggage lost during the valet parking.

Will it turn up before tee-off time? This is a vital question on a course that aspires to military precision. If your cart isn't in the line up by 12.07pm precisely, all is chaos.

Although the first ball was struck only in October, 1988, the pressure on The Phoenician par-71 championship course is already so great that a further nine holes are scheduled to open in November. The existing 18-hole course has a split personality, part manicured grassland, part desert. After a deceptively benevolent start, the water hazards kick in, culminating at the ninth with an artificial lake that guards the green so comprehensively that it must be crossed or the hole lost.

The second nine head into undulating terrain on the lower slopes of Camelback Mountain. As is customary with desert golf, success demands straight shooting from the tees if balls are not to stray into rattler country. After groping among the cactus, it is almost a relief to find yourself back among the artificial lakes for the run up to the clubhouse.

It is hard to imagine a more opulent back-up for a golfing holiday than The Phoenician, with its choice of cuisines, marble sunken bathrooms and fine public rooms. Those who like comparable luxury on a smaller scale may prefer The Boulders, 30 miles to the north. As the name suggests, this is rock country, rich in the dramatic rounded formations that characterise the Sonora desert.

The Boulders has two 18-hole golf courses unimaginatively named North and South, but designed to test the pinpoint accuracy and the patience of the golfer. Many of the holes are on the triple jump plan: tee to fairway, fairway to green, with unforgiving belts of cactus scrub in between. The fairways are narrow and the greens well guarded by sand traps that make full use of unlimited local supplies. Breathtaking views create an added hazard: it can be difficult to keep your eye on the ball.

In the contemporary jargon, The Boulders is a "hideaway" resort, with central public rooms for eating and lounging and individual *casitas* for sleeping. It claims to blend so well with the environment that the wildlife is unaware of its existence. I wonder if the coyote that wandered across the fairway in pursuit of our cart would agree.

MINTY CLINCH

● *The author was a guest of Destination Golf.*

PALM SPRINGS

IF PHOENIX is golf's future, Palm Springs is part of its history. For this, it must thank Bob Hope and his friends for luring Hollywood away from the fleshpots into the natural palm oases once inhabited by the Agua Caliente Indians. In former times, the Indians were peaceful hunter-gatherers based in an area where abundant hot springs made the desert bloom. In modern times, they have become fighters for tribal rights, with so much success that they are the largest landowners in the city.

Today, the waters that attracted them to the area irrigate 100 courses in a golf-mad city. Is your plane delayed? No worries, there's a putting green at the airport to while away the wait.

A ten-minute drive brings you to the Desert Princess Country Club, one among many emerald oases dedicated to the great god of golf. The view from the clubhouse is quintessential Palm Springs: verdant turf, orange-pink crags reflected in still blue waters, tall trees motionless in clear air.

On La Vista, the longest of the Desert Princess's three nine-hole courses, the ball must fly straight and true from the first down the left-hand shore of a long ornamental lake if a disastrous start is to be avoided. By the second, the fairway is lined with houses, one of them owned by the two newly retired law enforcement officers from Pasadena who make up our four. "Not that one, I hope," I ask anxiously as my wayward tee-shot cracks down on a roof.

AS WE progress, the wind rises and increases until the fairways are lost in clouds of sand. This maelstrom is El Niño, the hot desert wind from Mexico that is California's answer to the Mistral. Within minutes the course is almost deserted. With British bloody-mindedness, we play on, to be rewarded within the hour by an empty course restored to unruffled sunshine.

Los Lagos and its sisters, La Vista and El Cielo, can be played in combination to make up three par 72 championship courses, each more than 6,000 yards. And whichever route you happen to choose, you'll be lucky to avoid 21 strategically placed lakes.

For those with energy to spare after 27 holes, the 345-acre Doubletree Resort has a driving range, ten tennis courts, two swimming pools, two racquetball courts and a fitness centre. The Doubletree Hotel specialises in mid-range American comfort geared towards convention victims who see all-round competiton as part of the drive up the corporate ladder.

M.C.

● *The author was a guest of Virgin International Airways and Virgin Holidays.*

PICARDY

FRANCE apparently occupies ninth position in the world rankings for the number of golfers per thousand of population. In Picardy, with its three departments of Aisne, Oise and Somme, this intelligence can be extrapolated to show that the region's 23 golf clubs have an average membership of about 270, which is less than half that of the average club in Britain.

In Britain, there are getting on for three million golfers, many of them milling around looking for somewhere to play while on holiday, and the Picardy Tourist Board has latched on to this.

The board suggests that the Brits take their cars to Dover, board a P&O ferry for the 75-minute Channel crossing, take a leisurely lunch and then drive off down the A26 from Calais to the uncrowded courses of Picardy.

The roads are empty, the courses well away from the normal tourist areas, and there is plenty of room on them. At least there was when we were there.

'I would not have missed the Belle Dune club for the world'

I have to admit that our golfing break coincided with a period of excessively hot weather, and I had to break off after every nine holes or so like a beached whale. The heat could have been why the courses were so empty, but the local hoteliers say that, though they book tee times for their guests, this is unnecessary on week days (Sundays are a different matter).

The first course we played was Golf de L'Aillette, ten minutes from Laon. A round here costs Fr185 (about £23), or Fr240 (about £30) at weekends. The course is a sporting mixture of easy-going parkland holes, with occasional intrusions from a huge sailing lake, and precipitous hills with vertiginous greens. There is a good hotel on the spot, but beware of the mosquitos on warm nights.

Our second round was at Apremont, a Japanese-owned course between Senlis and Chantilly, where the green fees (about £40 on weekdays, £70 at weekends) reflect the luxury of the clubhouse, in particular the Japanese baths "of unique Asiatic refinement". It came as no surprise to find an elevated ashtray beside each tee with cigarette ends stubbed neatly head down in the sand.

From the back tees Apremont is more than 7,000 yards, but there are four different tees for each hole that can make it up to almost a mile shorter.

Golfers who prefer something less expensive (£21 and £30) should try the Amiens club, a straightforward course that we had to ourselves on a Monday morning. The main hazard here, as at Apremont, is probably the size of the greens, where one has to struggle not to do worse than three-putt.

Between the bays of the Somme and Authie lies the Marquenterre, 12 kilometres of wild dunes and pine trees, which are a refuge for thousands of migratory birds. They are also the home of a links I would not have missed for the world. This is the *Belle Dune* golf club at Fort Mahon (£20 on weekdays, or £75 for five rounds), which the Picardy coastal authority built to safeguard the natural habitat as well as to encourage tourism.

The fairways had to be carefully sited to avoid creating tunnels that could funnel the winds and sweep away a whole dune overnight. A million hand-planted beach grasses were used to stabilise the fairways.

The course insinuates itself innocently enough through corridors of pine trees until suddenly one comes upon a vista of immense sand dunes. Because nature and not man has decreed the layout, it is sometimes a long way from the green to the next tee. But that is a small price to pay for the absence of artificial hazards and, above all, the peace of the place.

JOHN GRANT

● *The author was a guest of the French Government Tourist Office in conjunction with P&O European Ferries and Vauxhall Motors.*

PORTUGAL

EXACTLY 400 years ago the British sacked the port of Faro in the Algarve, only to be scared away by locals swinging sticks cave-man style and establishing for Portugal the legend of the *cacha-morreiros*, or cudgel-wielders. Thankfully, the process has been amicably reversed. Of the Algarve's many invaders — Carthaginians, Phoenicians, Visigoths and Moors — it is the British, primarily, who now fly in to Faro bearing such cudgels as No 3 woods, 7 irons, wedges and putters.

In 30 years, the western Algarve has become an Eden of golf. Sir Richard Costain, the builder, saw in Vale do Lobo, 20 kilometres west of Faro, the possibilities of linking white-scrubbed villas set in groves of eucalyptus, pine, olive, almond and orange, with networks of soft green golfing fairways and greens. Vilamoura doubled golf with a marina, while the builders Trafalgar House and Bovis sought to give a Beverly Hills gloss to Quinta do Lago.

West of this, the air freshens, the Cape St Vincent beckons and golf accommodates development, rather than vice versa. Here Sir Henry Cotton, the three times Open champion, was the master pioneer. He created Penina from a paddyfield and primed it with 350,000 trees. Recently, the course was given a a £2.5 million pound update. The 190-room, five-star Le Meridien Penina hotel has had a £3 million refurbishment, including a teaching academy to sit with the Championship and two nine-hole courses.

The heavy winter rains filled the reservoirs of the Monchique hills for the next two years, a blessing for nearby Palmares, Carvoeira, Alto and Parque da Floresta. These, with Penina, make a nest of courses on the Lagos-Portimao axis, fine beaches abounding and good meals with wine costing under £10 a head. The golf here is as natural and diverse as Algarve chimneys. Palmares' outward nine holes sweep down to the silvery sands of Meia Praia before climbing back among the fig and olive trees. At about £30 a game, Palmares is among the cheaper courses.

Cotton died before he had finished the Alto course but the journalist Peter Dobereiner helped see it to a conclusion. Robert Bridge, its English pro, gladly hands a certificate to anyone who birdies the 604-metre 16th, known as "The Giant".

WITH LONG experience of Quinta do Lago, Stuart Woodman directs the neighbouring Carvoeiro courses of Vale da Pinta, where the American designer Ronald Fream has retained many of the characteristics of an ancient olive grove: deep greens are protected by as many as 59 bunkers. The adjacent Quinta do Gramacho cunningly employs double tees and greens to extract 18 holes from more limited territory.

Lastly, where the hills roll down towards Cape St Vincent and the end of Europe, Parque da Floresta teases and tests. About £1 million has been spent by the Vigia Group in re-ordering its layout over challenging natural contours. Greens have been resculpted and drainage improved for better lies and buggy routes. The 500-yard opening hole remains, skirting a chasm like a volcano crater. Earth tremors are not unknown hereabouts, but the more usual quaking is on the first tee.

JOHN SAMUEL

GOLFING FACT FILE

■ ZIMBABWE
Sunsport Tours (01604 31626) offers a five-night package including flights with Air Zimbabwe, transfers, B&B accommodation at Leopard Rock, Meikles and Imba Matombo and a day trip to Victoria Falls with a cruise down the Zambezi, from £1,100 per person sharing a twin room in low season (Jan 16-Mar 31, and Sept 1-Nov 30). Single room supplement £185. A night at Victoria Falls is suggested, staying at the Elephant Hills Hotel. This costs from £70 per person sharing.

■ PHOENIX
Destination Golf (0181-891 5151) offers seven-night packages, including flights and car hire, from £859 in the summer low season, and £1,155 after Sept 26. Green fees $75-$115 (including cart). Three-day packages (unlimited golf, cart, breakfast and dinner) at The Boulders from £530.

■ PALM SPRINGS
Virgin Atlantic Airways (01293 747747) offers Apex return fares at £512 in Oct, £612 July to Sept, £412 in Nov, Jan, Feb and Mar.
Virgin Holidays (01293 617181) offers high season packages including seven nights and car hire at the Doubletree Hotel and flights from £699; 14 nights from £829.

■ PICARDY
A Picardy Fact Pack is available from The French Government Tourist Office: 178 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AL (enclosing £1 in postage stamps for p&p) or call France Information on 0891 244123 (calls charged 39p/min cheap rate and 49p at all other times).
A four-day Dover-Calais return with P&O European Ferries (0990 980980) costs £69 per car and up to five passengers until Sept 15 (£10 supplement Saturdays).

■ PORTUGAL
Forte Reservations (0345 404040) quote three and seven day-stays at Le Meridien Penina, including flights. High season B&B packages cost £325 for three days, £849 for seven.
Some reduced green fees are available.
British Airways Holidays (01293 723131) offers stays at the Hotel de Lagos (Lagos), Hotel Almansor (Carvoeiro), Hotel Algarve (Portimao), Le Meridien Penina and the Sheraton (Praia de Falesia) from £349 for three nights, including flights, B&B, car hire and reduced green fees at most west Algarve courses. Seven nights are from £449.
The Parque da Floresta club is offering *Times* readers two rounds for the price of one this month and next on presentation of this article.

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A journey along the Nile is a passage through antiquity. It is an incomparable river voyage that brings to life the great monuments of the Pharaohs, the divine kings of thirty dynasties who ruled Egypt for some 3,500 years before Christ.

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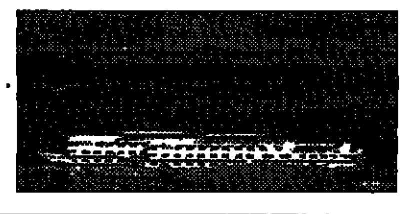
Exploration by river is without doubt the most comfortable and relaxing way to see Egypt and particularly when one is fortunate enough to travel on one of the smaller vessels of the first class Thomas Cook Egypt fleet. With a party size of approximately forty travellers, the atmosphere on board is more akin to a private yacht. However, the best feature of such a small party is the speed and ease at which we can move around the sites and embark and disembark. On a larger vessel so much time can be wasted whilst hundreds of passengers queue to land, join a coach etc.

In addition to our ten nights on the river, we will have a total of four days in Cairo, Egypt's capital for the past thousand years. From here we will view the wonders of Giza, Saqqara and Memphis as well as visit the Cairo Museum and the old city.



A PASSAGE ALONG THE NILE

A 15 DAY JOURNEY THROUGH MIDDLE AND UPPER EGYPT ABOARD THE ROYAL SERENADE
12-26 February and 12-26 March 1997 with Robert Anderson

THE ITINERARY

DAY 1 London (Heathrow) - Cairo with Egyptair. Drive to the luxurious Hotel Semiramis Inter-Continental for a 3 night stay.

DAY 2 Cairo Drive to Giza and see the pyramids of Khephren and Cheops alongside the Great Sphinx. Visit the tombs of the nobles and the wooden boat of Cheops.

DAY 3 Cairo Morning visit to the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities where the Pharaoh's reign of 3000 years is brought to life, culminating in the golden hoard of King Tutankhamun. Later drive to Saqqara to see the Step Pyramid of King Zoser and on to Memphis to see the sphinx and statue of Ramesses II.

DAY 4 Cairo - Luxor Morning visit to the Roman-Byzantine fortress of Old Cairo including the Coptic Museum and St Sergius Church. Afternoon flight to Luxor and embark Royal Serenade. Moor overnight.

DAY 5 On the Nile A leisurely day sailing to Sohag.

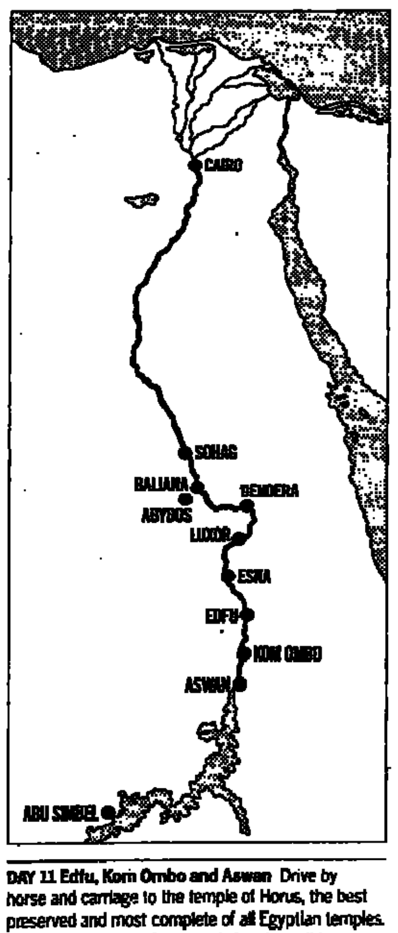
DAY 6 Sohag - Baliana This morning we will visit two Coptic monasteries. Firstly, the Red Monastery dating back to the fifth century and, later, the White Monastery. Cruise the Nile to Baliana and moor overnight.

DAY 7 Abydos and Dendera Drive through the fertile Nile Valley to Abydos, the most sacred site in Egypt to visit the temples of Seti I and his son, Ramesses II, also see the Tablet of Abydos which lists 76 Egyptian Kings. In the afternoon, drive to the temple of Hathor at Dendera to see the decorated chapels and striking bas-reliefs of Queen Cleopatra. Sail to Qena for an overnight mooring.

DAY 8 Luxor Morning on the river. Afternoon visit to the magnificent temples of Karnak and Luxor. Moor overnight.

DAY 9 Luxor An early start this morning, crossing the Nile and driving through sugar plantations and arid desert to the Necropolis of ancient Thebes. See the tombs of the Pharaohs in the Valley of the Kings, the mortuary temple of Queen Hatshepsut, the Valley of the Queens and the Colossi of Memnon. Afternoon at leisure, perhaps visiting the nearby Luxor Museum. This evening we will attend a sound and light show at the temple of Karnak.

DAY 10 Esna and Edfu Morning on the Nile. In the afternoon take a stroll through Esna and visit the temple of Khnum. Sail on to Edfu for an overnight mooring.



DAY 11 Edfu, Kom Ombo and Aswan Drive by horse and carriage to the temple of Horus, the best preserved and most complete of all Egyptian temples. Later cruise to Kom Ombo and visit the striking Ptolemaic temple overlooking the Nile. Sail to Aswan and moor overnight.

DAY 12 Aswan Visit the Aswan High Dam – the largest rock-filled dam in the world and continue to the reconstructed temple of Philae. In the afternoon we will sail across the Nile by felucca to Kitchener Island. This was once the General's property, but now a botanic garden with a marvellous collection of African plants and trees.

DAY 13 Abu Simbel Early morning flight to Abu Simbel to see the reconstructed rock-hewn temple of Ramesses and the temple of Nefertari. Return to Aswan by air.

DAY 14 Aswan - Cairo Morning flight to Cairo for an overnight stay at the Hotel Semiramis Inter-Continental. Afternoon at leisure, perhaps making a visit to the Islamic Museum which houses one of the richest collections of Islamic art in the world, alternatively, haggle away a few hours in the Khan el-Khalili Bazaar.

DAY 15 Cairo - London (Heathrow) with Egyptair.

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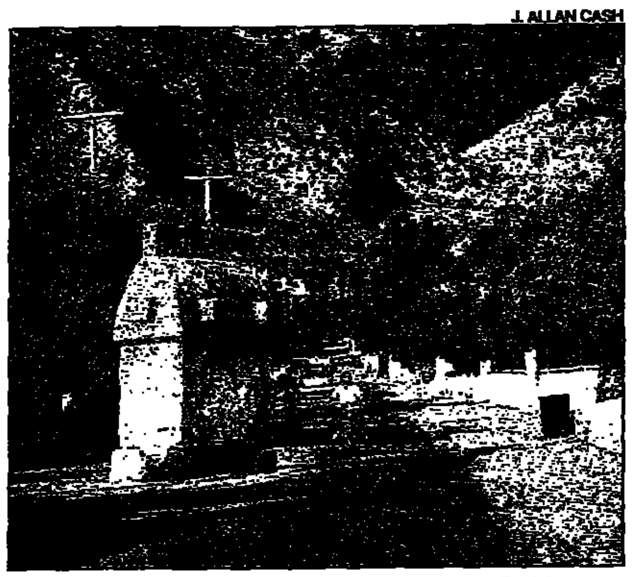
Turkey: sunburn, sage tea and the shock of the nude in a country where rambling is regarded as madness

Why do only fools and hikers walk?


J. ALLAN CASH
A Lycian sarcophagus bisects a street in Fethiye

The stallholder's card read: "Turkish Delboy — Turkish Delight, lovely jubbly". Fethiye market in southwest Turkey, with its trays of fresh spices, exotic fruit and vegetables and little mills for grinding coffee was a long way from the Peckham stamping-ground of Del Trotter. But the owner of the card evidently felt he had struck a chord. "I have Reliant Robin," he added.

I retreated as he proffered a free glass of apple tea and pointed to the bottom of his business card, which claimed: "As seen on the *Holiday Programme*".

Later I was to learn that offering tea is normal practice in hospitable Turkey and does not oblige anybody to buy anything. But on my first day I was still on my guard, having read too many holiday guides warning about harassment by Turkish men. In fact, one look at the skimpy bikinis and shorts on sale in Fethiye's shops would have confirmed how much more relaxed (or resigned) Turks in tourist areas have become towards Western fashions.

Fethiye, where the Aegean turns into the Mediterranean, is a sprawling market town with a wide bay, ringed by tree-covered mountains stretching back into what was once the ancient kingdom of Lycia. In 1957, almost the whole town was razed by an earthquake and most of it has been rebuilt with pleasing, low-rise white buildings with red roofs. Flowers and vines grow profusely, trained over balconies.

One of the best views of Fethiye is from the Lycian tombs cut into the rocks above the town. It is worth a short but steep climb in the heat to stand in the shadow of the Ionic columns guarding the tomb and take in the sweep of the bay, with its fishing boats moving across a startlingly turquoise sea.

Our first view of the town was, however, from a path high up in the mountains leading from Ocakkoy, a village of carefully restored holiday cottages complete with pool, restaurant and bars, where we were based for a week's walking. Our group of 13 had met for the first time the previous evening and were cautiously breaking the ice as we started our first walk (an easy one to break our legs in). The path was narrow, rocky and crumbling in places, and we fell into single file as it wound into the hills. Even at 10am the sun was hot, and we were grateful for our sunhats and sun-cream. Our skins were starting to redden as, after an hour, we stopped for a snack of dried fruit.

People swapped stories of walks they had done in Britain while absorbing the view of high, hazy-blue mountains and grass flecked with yellow and blue flowers. For a while we were forced to adopt the pace of a herd of goats which emerged from the trees. Animals in this part of Turkey are impressively free-range with cows, goats and chickens allowed to roam at will along rough tracks, often supervised by small children equipped with nothing more commanding than a pair of tin cans.

Despite the heat (in May still nowhere near its fiercest), walking is often the most practical way to reach the remotest areas, the best beaches and the most spectacular views. We walked up steep cliff paths, high above white beaches and sea so blue that it was almost a disappointment to swim in it later and find it was colourless.

We walked away from the sea into the mountains, down through craggy pine forests with the flat, brown-and-green patchwork of the Xanthos valley opening out before us, and picnicked in an olive grove. Paths led through waist-high fields of waving corn laced with poppies and rich, red fields of tobacco and cotton.

TONY STONE
The magnificent lagoon at Olu Deniz, a favourite with brochure photographers and parties of hot, footsore walkers

Anything approaching an Ordnance Survey map is unknown in Turkey, where the plotting and mapping of mountain paths was opposed by the military authorities until recently. Now walking is becoming popular but waymarks and other reminders of civilisation scarcely exist, and losing your way can mean an uncomfortable night on the mountainside. Fortunately we were led by an experienced guide, Shirley Subasi who, with her right-hand man, Cengiz, had worked out the best routes by walking them and asking advice from local people. This advantage engendered slight feelings of *Schadenfreude* on the rare occasions that we met other walkers.

One unfortunate group who had just climbed the same steep, rocky path as us to reach the remote Kozagac district discovered they faced a three-hour walk to the beach at Olu Deniz. One of the group was wearing nothing stouter than a pair of wedge-heeled sandals. Throughout the rest of the holiday, one or other of the group would say musingly: "I wonder if those people ever made it back?"

We had two not-so-secret weapons. One was a white minibus which crawled up and down the mountain tracks permanently in second gear. It carried our packed lunches, spare clothes and any of the party who had temporarily lost their energy. Hassan, its driver, always succeeded in meeting us exactly on time at whichever secluded beach, lagoon or canal Shirley had selected for our picnic.

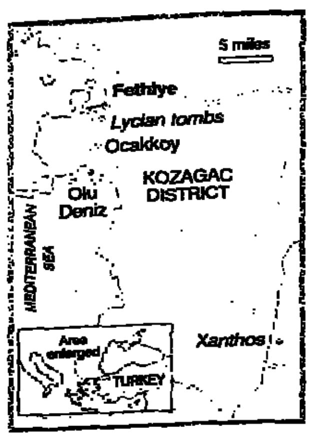
The other secret weapon was Shirley herself, an Englishwoman who spoke fluent Turkish and seemed to know everyone in the remotest villages. Some villagers found it difficult to understand why anyone would want to walk for pleasure rather than from necessity. But they were sympathetic. "Haven't you got a car?" one asked. Through Shirley, we were invited to eat our picnic lunch in mountain farmhouses or villages, always with offers of sage tea and an offer of the best seats.

Traditions die hard in such places, where the headscarf is still virtually universal for women and a father's main duty is to see his daughters married off with a dowry. But the modern world intrudes. Many of the villages are populated mainly by older people, and there are fears that the villages will die as children leave to find jobs or to attend secondary school. Recently the government has attempted to keep people in villages by supplying running water and electricity, so they can continue to lead self-sufficient lives on the land.

After a week of seeing Turkish modesty in action in the villages (several of our party who were wearing shorts tied sarongs around their legs to make sure they did not offend at lunch), the Turkish bath in Fethiye came as a shock. The bath for tourists was mixed — and nude. The only thing protecting our modesty was a cotton wrap, which quickly became sodden and left little to the imagination. Male masseurs were on hand to scrub and soap and massage, a sight that was greeted with girlish squeals from the more retiring of our group. Two hours later, we agreed we would not have missed the experience for anything. As one of our group commented wryly: "We know each other pretty well after that."

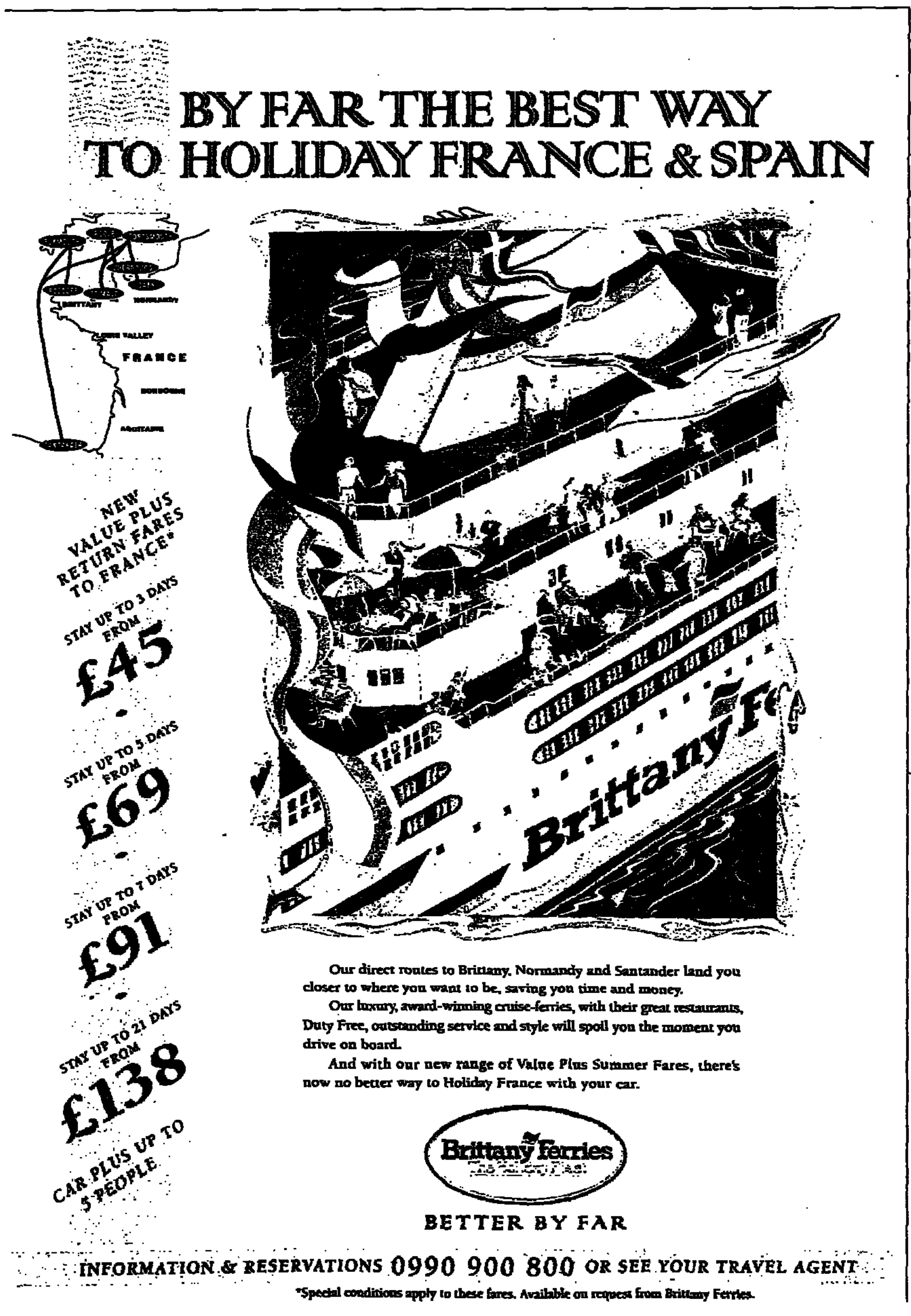
SARA McCONNELL

- *The author was a guest of Simply Turkey.*



FACT FILE

- Simply Turkey (0181-747 1011) organises three walking trips a year in Turkey, led by experienced trek leader Shirley Subasi. The next "Walks in Rural Turkey" trip is one week from Sept 29. The cost is £540 per person, which includes daily walks accompanied by the tour guide, local transfers, breakfast, picnic or taverna lunch, accommodation in self-catering cottages in Ocakkoy and direct flights from Heathrow to Dalaman. No single person supplements.
- Simply Turkey also organises spring and autumn walking holidays in Crete, Corsica and Corfu.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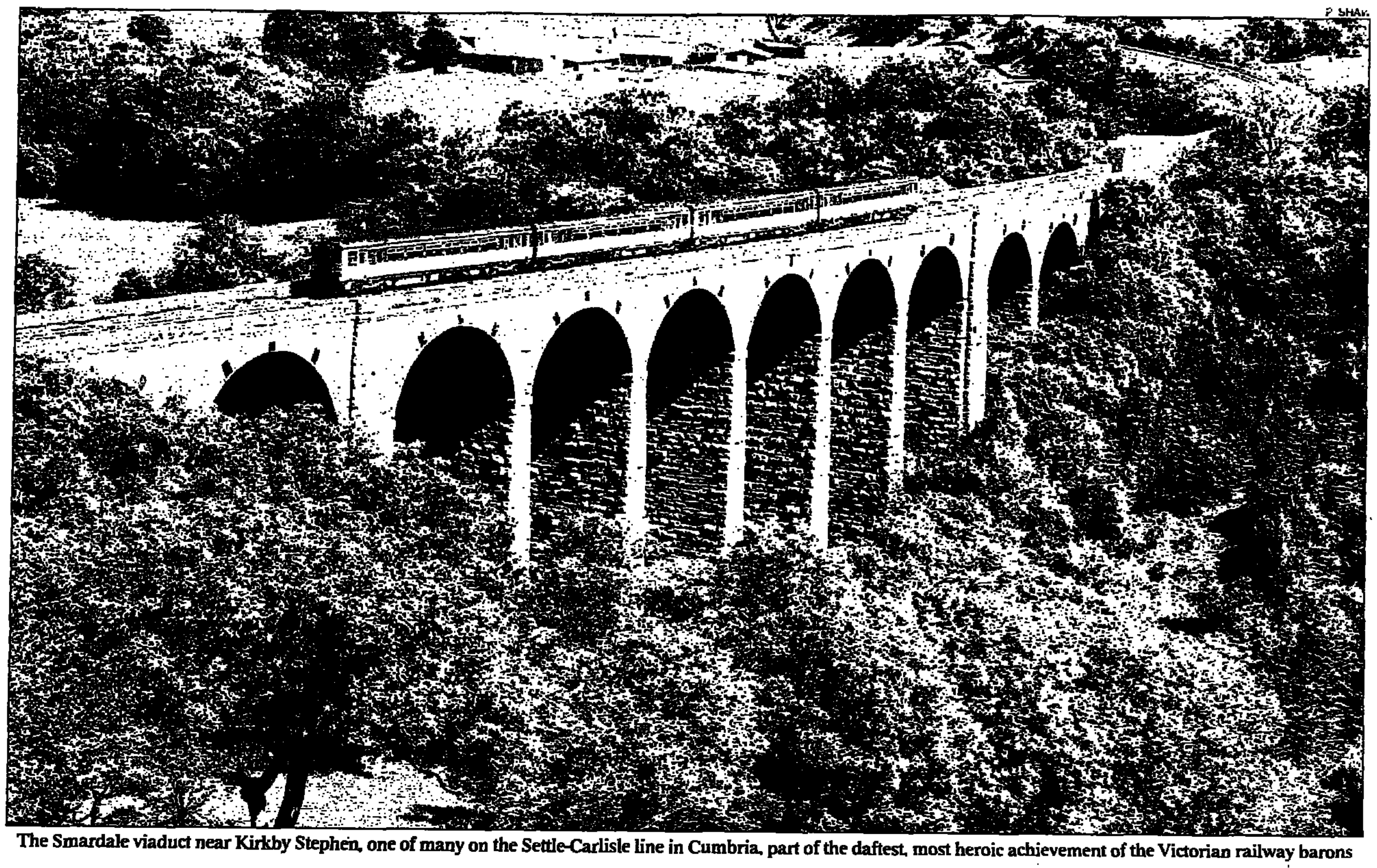
Folly that saw off the railway philistines



P SHAW

The Smardale viaduct near Kirkby Stephen, one of many on the Settle-Carlisle line in Cumbria, part of the daftest, most heroic achievement of the Victorian railway barons

Leeds must be the most ferro-centric city in Britain, if that's the *mot juste* for places big in railways. They don't let the grass grow between the lines here. It bustles as Crewe once did, the hub of a resuscitated railway system, busily shuttling trains to all points.

People with a day on their hands who care to run a questing finger down the departures board, serendipitously seeking a destination, need progress no further through the alphabet than "C". Go to Carlisle via Settle.

The following judgment transcends mere rail buffery. By any objective assessment this must be the most thrilling public transport experience in England, the daftest, most heroic achievement of the Victorian railway barons, a line driven through desolate mires and howling moors, and speared through the sinew of the Pennines. Perhaps overawed by the Wordsworthian stature of his subject, the publicity department's poet falls back on doggerel for the station posters to speed you on your way — "You'll travel with a smile on the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle".

It took 40 minutes for our nifty two-coach Super Sprinter, comfy high-backed seats, to snake through the once grimy valleys, now shoulder to shoulder with smart new industrial "units", to base camp at Settle in the Yorkshire Dales.

Here the train pauses as though to take stock of the endeavour ahead, while latecomers puff over the red lattice bridge. With what hearty disbelief the men of the Oyster Club, who met in the Golden Lion at Settle "to eat oysters and discuss the news of the day", must have greeted the Midland Railway's foolhardy proposal.

There were two perfectly good lines to the north in 1870, but the recklessly competitive Midland would insist on a third. The only alignment left was up the spine of England, the 77 miles from Settle to Carlisle. It was a project to test the hardiest navvy, shivering in his sad little shanty town of Inkerman or Jericho or Salt Lake — 22 viaducts, 14 tunnels, 362 bridges.

For a century, crack expresses thundered through this sensational wilderness between London and Glasgow. Then philistine old BR sought to end the nonsense. It ran the line down and predicted a collapse of its central structure, and greatest liability, the 24-arch Ribblehead Viaduct. In 1981, BR proposed closure. But a hard-fought campaign saved the route.

We set off from Settle up the bane of the steam-engine fireman, the Long Drag, 14 miles of unrelenting grind into the clouds. Even our sprightly diesel began to growl with the effort. For a time homely Yorkshire values prevailed — "Tea room 50 yards on the left" sirened a notice on an adjoining road. But slowly the abundant fields with their serpentine rivers give way to raw moorland.

> Truly, the service deserves Orient Express treatment

The climb unfinished, I alighted at Ribblehead station to inspect the viaduct, now fully repaired after a dozen funding bodies chipped in with grants. A path worn wide by steam train photographers leads from the Station Inn to the central arch. Bloated globules of water shuddered down from a vast height. A genuinely moving plaque commemorating the repairs depicts 1870s navvy greeting 1990s engineer.

I took the next train up to the summit. Dent, at 1,150ft the highest station in England, was clamped under a cloudy gloom even on an early spring morning. A lonely road wound into the glowering fells. I imagined the carts waiting at dusk ready to sweep heroines off to remote cottages.

On under great peaks slashed with waterfalls, through tunnels necklaced with bayonets of ice, past stern grey rock faces. The petrified ribs of old snow screens recalled past Ice Ages. In 1947 a train was trapped up to its chimney for weeks. Here every type of snow is wrong. *In extremis* the operator switches to the "winter weather timetable", displayed in emergency red tape on every platform.

Garsdale station has a maintenance problem. The locals recognise it as they might the crumbling of their parish church, with a fund — an old milk churn, evidently not Regional Railways issue, awaits donations. Hereabouts, the route is that rural cliché, the lifeline. This routine mid-week service was more than half full, the passenger list evenly divided between tourists and ruddy-cheeked country types. The farmer next to me was taking a professional interest in his neighbours' holdings, every field a cameo of seasonal promise, flocks of expectant ewes colour-coded as to patrimony of their rumps.

Wherever you stand on privatisation, you have to admit that BR was not the most caring parent to this line. If ever there were a service to be given the Orient Express treatment, it was this. Such is the delicate state of the fast-eroding Yorkshire Dales National Park — I quote the park authority's notices — that there is a case for banning all outside visitors unless they come in a train, *and stay in it*.

Whoever lands the Regional Railways (North East) Franchise would be mad not to timetable regular Pullman trains, serving fine foods. And meet the huge demand for steam trains. Notices remind prospective passengers that the steam services they see are enthusiasts' specials.

The Pennines conquered, we drift down through the ample Cumbrian foothills, through stations with stout Viking names like Langwathy and Lazonby and on into Carlisle. The men of the Oyster Club are long gone; the Midland Railways' folly survives, with five trains a day each way.

GARETH HUW DAVIES

● *The author was a guest of Regional Railways (0113-244 8133 or 010482 326033) and the Crown Hotel at Wetherall, four miles east of Carlisle, where a package through Superbreak (01904-679999) costs £65 a person a night, half-board.*

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 27

SHAPOO
(b) A kind of sheep (*Ovis vignei*) found in Ládák (Kashmir) and Tibet. Also *shapu*, *sharpoo*, and shortened *sha*. From the Tibetan *sha-pho* wild sheep. "The Oorial and the Shapoo are bearded Sheep. The Shapoo is brownish-grey, white below, with a short brown beard."

ASTBURY
(b) An eponym from the surname of John *Astbury* (1688-1743), used (*esp.* attributively) to designate a type of Staffordshire pottery. "A two-handled loving-cup with design in white relief on a red body, the whole glazed with a yellow lead glaze, was sold under the designation of Astbury ware."

GALPON
(b) In South America a building given to the use of labourers on a farm. The local name. "My father went to the galpon, the big barnlike building used for storing wood, hides, and horsehair."

BUNCO
(b) A swindle perpetrated by means of card-sharping or some form of confidence trick. Said to be an adaptation of the Spanish *banca*, a card-game similar to *monte*. "The bunco-artists from the lunatic fringe of the Democratic Party."

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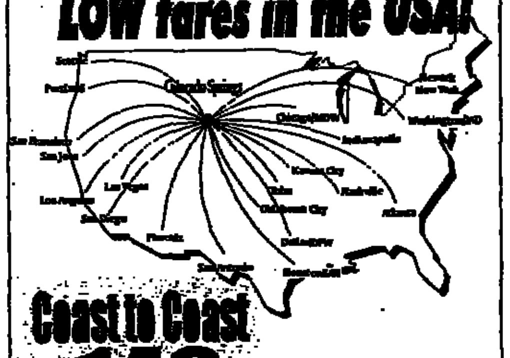

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Travel also appears on pages 26 & 28

International: hidden history revealed along the byways of Paris; autumn in New England or Aquitaine

Faire le sightseeing

I decided to try one of the walking tours of Paris conducted by English guides who try to go beyond the obvious. Two main companies provide such walks, lasting around two hours: Paris Walking Tours and Paris Contact Guided Walks.

For those jaded by traditional tourist-packed sites, there are such obscurities as a tour of Hemingway's Paris, taking in favourite hotels and drinking dens around the Mouffetard district of the Latin Quarter, a patch also favoured by Orwell, Joyce and Balzac.

The "In Jefferson's Footsteps" tour starts at Concorde and follows Jefferson's time as American ambassador to France in the 18th century. Sites visited include the grand mansions where he partied and debated and, rather curiously, his daughter's school.

As a test I decided to try the St Germain des Près Village tour, since it was on my doorstep and the streets were familiar. With the guide, Jill Daneels of Paris Contact, I discovered secret courtyards and plaques which I had missed when walking by, and doors which opened at the press of a buzzer, allowing anyone to peek inside.

The walk begins in the church of St Germain des Près, once an abbey which covered the entire area between Rue St Benoit and Rue Jacob, parts of which date back to AD 542. The main church was consecrated in the 12th century, when it still had a wooden roof. Inside, the original architecture was painted in the 19th century by Hippolyte Flandrin to give what we would now describe as a Jocasta Innes look — faded red, blue and grey-green designs painted on the pillars and ceilings.

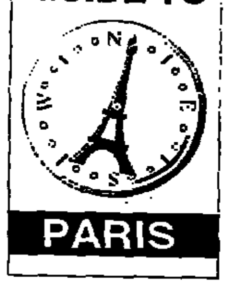
During the revolution, the abbey was used to store explosives and two of its towers were blown up. The revolutionaries also executed the 316 monks remaining on the premises, in what is now a garden. Descartes is buried here — but the guide neglected to mention the intriguing fact that his head was stolen from his original burial place in Stockholm and travelled widely until it was reunited with his body in St Germain.

Indeed, my only complaint about the walk was that, although it was fine on proper history, it lacked a little in scurrilous gossip through the ages. For instance, walking down Rue Mazarine, I am sure tourists would have enjoyed being shown the apartment where former President Miterrand and his lover, Anne Pingeot, had secret trysts, eventually producing their illegitimate daughter, Mazarine.

The walk also covered the Café Flore, Les Deux Magots and the Brasserie Lipp and their one-time customers, from surrealists to Sartre, Trotsky to Chou en Lai.

Still following the old abbey walls, we went to the Delacroix museum in his old studio off the Place de Furstenburg, passing the apartment where Richard Wagner lived for a year, the hotel where Oscar Wilde died in exile, the scruffy house in Paris's narrowest street where Racine died, and George Sand's house. "She was famous for wearing trousers," the guide told the Americans, which was a fairly limited summary of her life.

INSIDER'S GUIDE TO



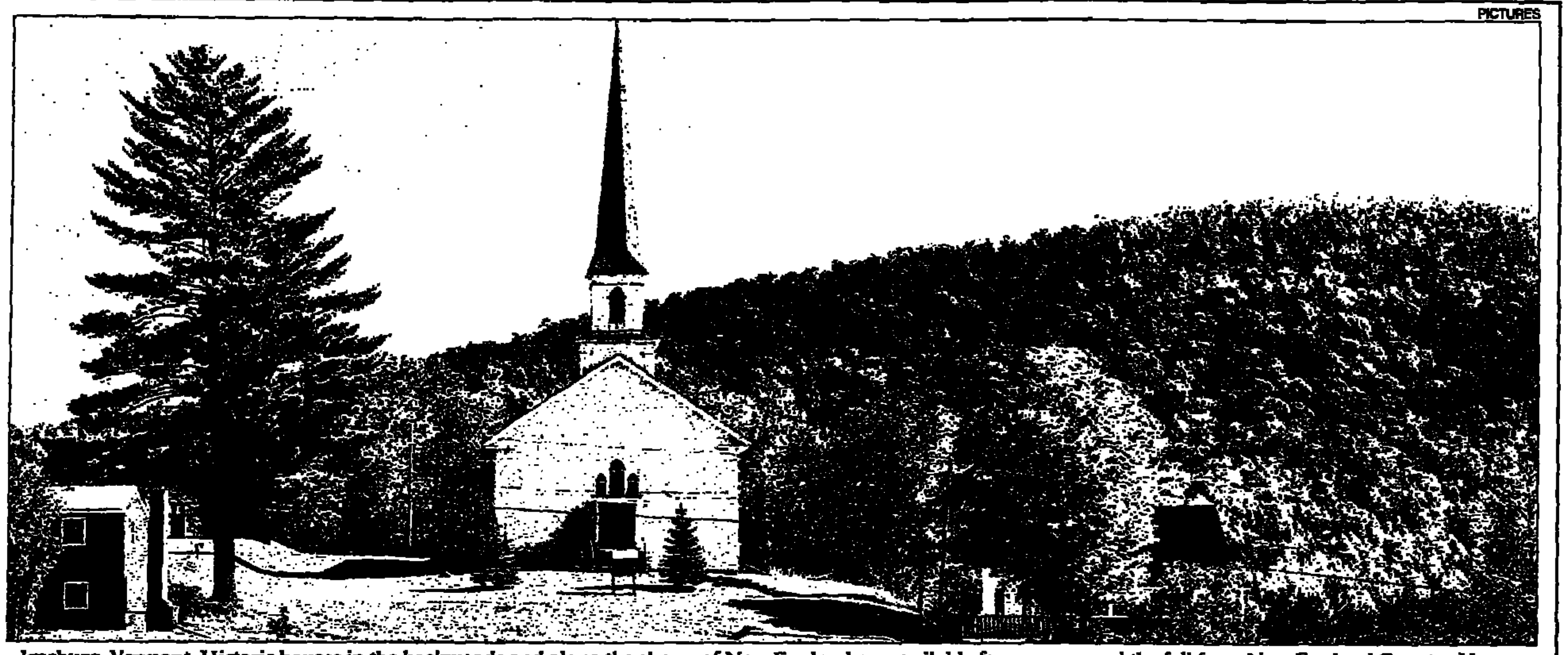
PARIS

Down the Passage St André de Commerce, filled with little shops and cafés, there were two good finds. Above the houses pokes one of the remaining towers of the original city wall, which then excluded the village of St Germain. Nearby is one of the finest courtyards in Paris, the Cour de Rohan, with three interlocking plant-draped squares, one of which was used by Dr Guillotin when testing his contraption on various unlucky sheep.

KATE MUIR

- *Paris Walking Tours: the Revolution in the Latin Quarter, Hemingway's Paris, Mansions, Mistresses and Murderers of the Marais, Ile de la Cité, Opera House, Notre Dame and Saint Chapelle, St Germain, Montmartre, Bastille, Fr60: (010 331 48 09 21 40)*
- *Paris Contact Guided Walks: In Jefferson's Footsteps, Bohemian Montmartre, Monceau District, St Germain, Fr60: (010 331 42 51 08 40)*

PICTURES



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Dinner party

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JILL CRAWSHAW'S TRAVEL TIPS

Get some advice

STUDENTS planning adventure trips before returning to college in October, or their anxious parents, can get free advice at evening workshops by Explore Worldwide (01252 344161). The next evening, on July 29 at the Baden Powell House in Knightsbridge, London, deals with Nepal and trekking.

South circular

THE highlight of Orient Line's (0171-409 2500) Antarctic Cruises for winter 1997/98 aboard the ice-strengthened 22,000-ton *Marco Polo* is the 26-day Antarctic circumnavigation from Ushuaia in South America to the little-known Ross Sea, arriving in New Zealand on February 11, 1998. En route are the US McMurdo Station, 736 miles from the South Pole, the huts at Cape Evans and Cape Royd used by early explorers, wildlife spotting and lectures from the likes of Sir Edmund Hillary, who led the first crossing of the Antarctic in 1955, botanist David Bellamy and astronomer Dr Patrick Moore. The price, from £4,935, includes return flights.

Le web site

A COMPLETE information service for visitors to France is now on the Internet. The 2,000-page France Guide includes existing information available from the French Tourist Office, plus items on shopping, travel and motoring, regional pages, theme guides and interactive multilingual correspondence pages. To access the guide: http://www.franceguide.com

Mandela tour

A 15-DAY tour "In the Footsteps of the President" is offered by South African Airways Holidays (01342 322525) visiting Nelson Mandela's birthplace, school and university, Robben Island prison where he spent many years, and the Victor Verster prison from which he eventually walked to freedom. The tour also includes wildlife watching, the Garden Route, Cape Town, Johannesburg and Soweto. 13 nights' accommodation and travel by air-conditioned coach costs from £2,175. Return flights to the UK are approximately £695.

Kept on ice

A GUARANTEED pre-Christmas skiing weekend on the Kitzsteinhorn glacier in Austria is offered from December 13-15 by Neilson through Thomas Cook shops (01733 335513). Staying in Kaprun at the foot of the glacier, skiers will have from about 11am on Friday until mid-afternoon on Sunday for skiing. The cost is from £199-£299, lift pass £49.

Bit of culture

A PROGRAMME dedicated exclusively to the London theatre and arts is offered by Superbreaks (01904 679999), with a choice of 18 hotels and events which include theatres, rock, pop and classical concerts. Sunday and Monday nights at the Grafton hotel plus tickets for the new Martin Guerre production cost £119 per person.

Top flights

AIR UK's (0345 666777) return fare between London City Airport and Amsterdam from August 19 to September 8 is £49. Regent Holidays (0117-921 1711) is offering Air China return fares between Heathrow and Peking for £500, with an extra £150 to Xian and back. The new Swiss charter airline Edelweiss Air (01293 553717) has come up with a £79 return fare between London Luton and Zurich, with no minimum stay.

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Track trips

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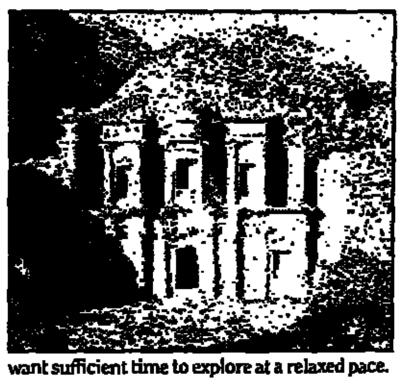

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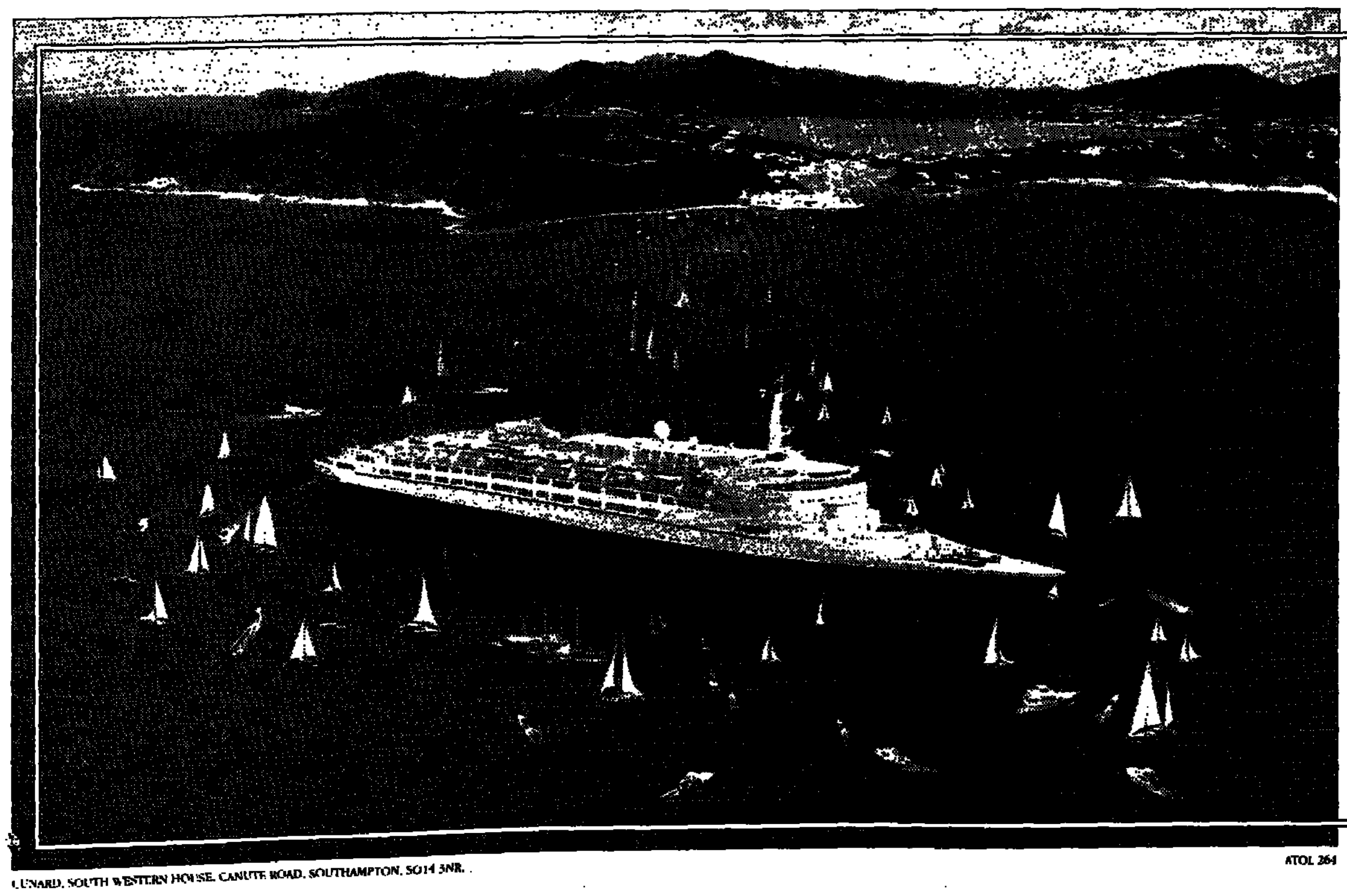

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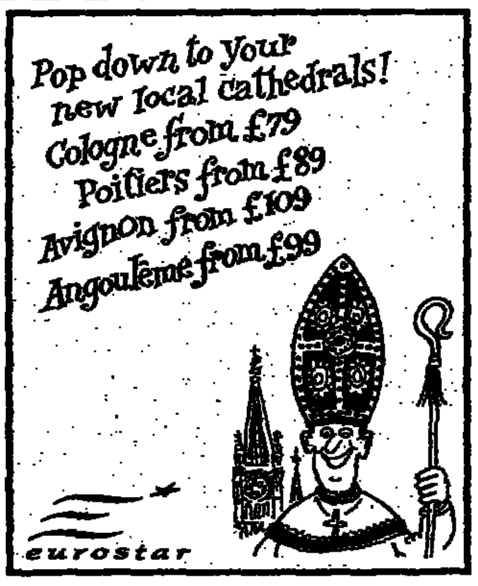

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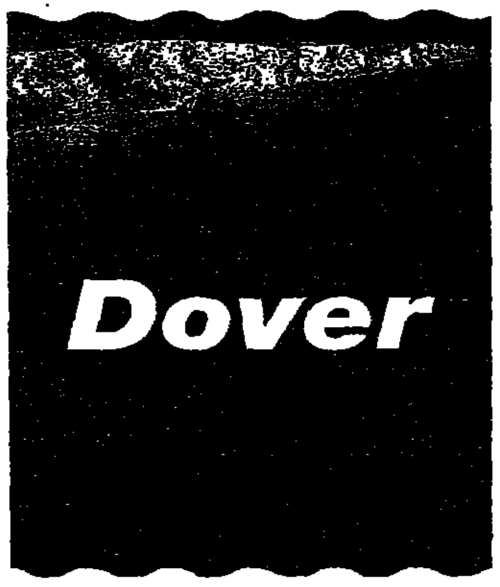

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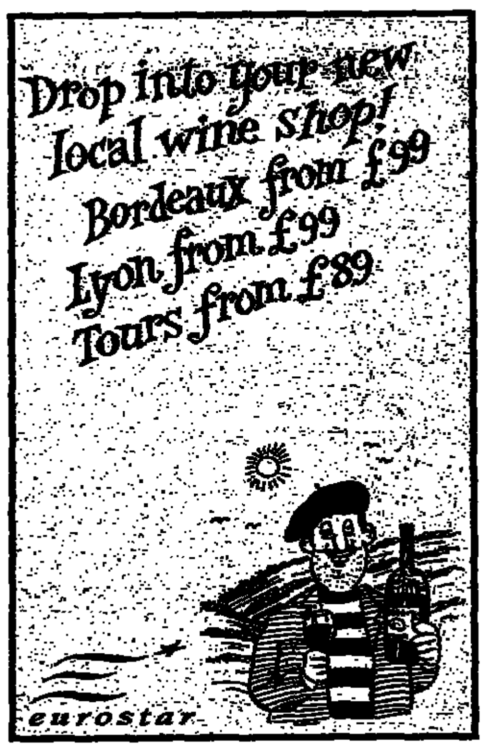

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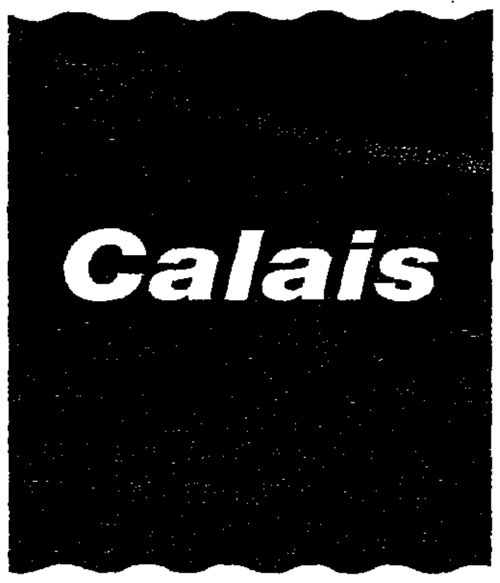

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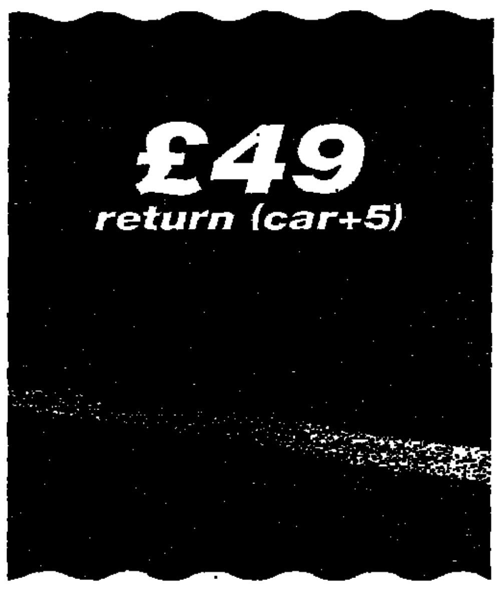

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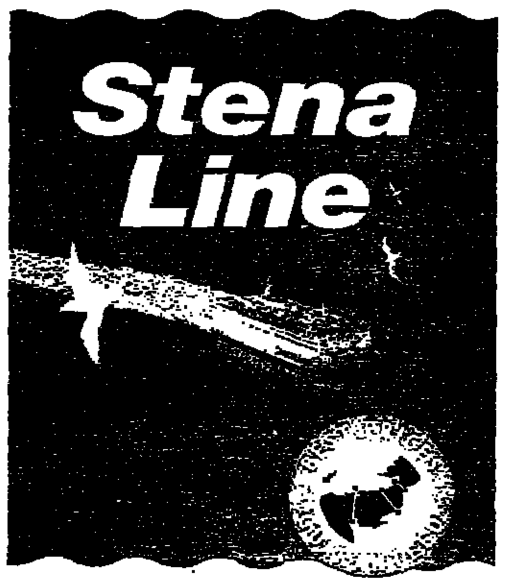

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GAMES

CHESS

by Raymond Keene

ANATOLY KARPOV has justified his position as favourite with a convincing win against Gata Kamsky in the 1.1 million dollar FIDE (World Chess Federation) World Championship match. It was a fascinating contest in which virtually every game was fought to the bitter end. It was particularly noticeable that, even when his match situation appeared hopeless, Kamsky never gave up hope. Just two games before the end Kamsky even scored an elegant win in a line in which Karpov is the acknowledged world expert. Here is Kamsky's swansong in the match.

W: Kamsky; B: Anatoly Karpov
FIDE World Championship
Elista, Game 16, July 1996
Queen's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6	2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	b6	4	g3	Ba6

Most players prefer 4 . . . Bb7 in this position, the natural square for the bishop. The more aggressive text, hitting out at White's pawn on c4, was introduced by Nimzowitsch in the 1920s.

5	b3	Bb4+	6	Bd2	Be7
7	Bg2	c6	8	Bc3	d5
9	Ne5	Nfd7	10	Nxd7	Nxd7
11	Nd2	0-0	12	0-0	Rc8

Karpov is perhaps the supreme virtuoso in the Queen's Indian and is happy to play this variation with either colour. For example, the position after White's 12th move was also reached in games 3 and 13 of this match, with Karpov White and Kamsky Black. In both cases Kamsky chose the less direct 12 . . . Rb8.

13	e4	c5	14	exd5	exd5
15	dxc5	dxc4	16	c6	cxb3
17	Re1	Bb5	18	axb3	Bxc6
19	Bxc6	Rxc6	20	Rxa7	

An important moment. This position is still known to theory and Black cannot now play 20 . . . Rxc3 on account of the finesse 21 Nb1 Rc7 22 Rxc7 Qxc7 23 Rxe7, when White exerts serious pressure on black's position. Alternatively, 20 . . . Nf6 also fails to relieve White's pressure, after 21 Qf3 Qd5 22 Rexe7 Qxf3 23 Nxf3 Rxc3 24 Ng5, as in the game Karpov-Korchnoi, Tilburg 1991.

20 . . . Bf6 21 Ne4 Bxc3. Up to this moment the game was still following another precedent set by Karpov, namely Karpov-Beliavsky, Linares 1993 which had gone 21 . . . Nc5 22 Qxd8 Rxd8 23 Bxf6 Rxf6 24 b4 with a slight advantage which Karpov converted to a win. In all these variations the power of White's rook established on the seventh rank is manifest. In this heavily analysed line it later transpired that 23 . . . gxf6! 24 Ree7 Nxb3 should draw for Black. It is, therefore, somewhat surprising that Karpov did not try this.

22 Rxd7 Qf6 23 Re4 Qf5. Here 23 . . . Re6 24 Rf4 Qg6 25 Rdxf7 Qxf7 26 Rxf7 Rxf7 27 Qd8+ Rf8 28 Qd5 Rf6 29 Nd6 wins for White, as in the game Chernin-Weingold, Seville 1993. The common theme of White's attack is the vulnerability of the black pawn on f7. If Karpov's 23rd move was designed as an improvement, he was sadly mistaken. **24 Rf4 Qe6.**

After the game, Karpov somewhat ruefully admitted that he had reached this position in pre-game analysis with his second, Epishin, and concluded that Black could equalise. However, White has a terrible shock in store.

25 Rdxf7. Suddenly the truth dawns. After 25 . . . Rxf7 26 Qd8+ Rf8 White has a choice of mates. White, therefore, stays a pawn up with a dominating position.

25	. . .	Re8	26	Qf3	Bf6
27	Rb7	h6	28	Kg2	Kh8
29	h4	Kg8	30	Kh2	Kh8
31	Qh5	Rd8	32	Rf7	Bd4
33	Rf8+	Rxf8	34	Rxf8+	Kh7
35	Qf3	Bc5	36	Rf5	Rc8
37	h5	Rd8	38	Re5	Qd7
39	Qe4+	Kh8	40	Kg2	Rf8
41	f4	Rd8	42	Qf3	Bd4
43	Re2	b5	44	Nd2	Bb6
45	Ne4	Qd1	46	Nf2	

A charming trap. If now 46 . . . Bxf2 47 Re8+ Rxe8 (if 47 . . . Kh7, 48 Qe4+) 48 Qxd1 winning Black's queen.

46	. . .	Qb1	47	Ng4	Qf5
48	Ne5	Kg8	49	Nc6.	

Black resigns.

In time trouble, Karpov's defences have disintegrated, and now he has no defence to the dual threats of Nxd8 and Ne7+ with decisive gain of material in both cases.

With Karpov winning games 1, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 14, and Kamsky winning games 2, 10 and 16, the final score was Karpov 10½, Kamsky 7½.

WINNING MOVE

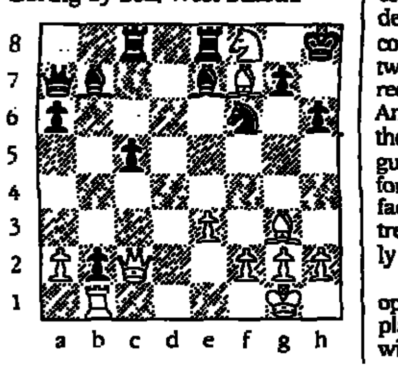
By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Zaitsev - Mikhalcisin, USSR 1984. The white knight and bishop have penetrated deep into the heart of Black's king position and they now combined to force a quick checkmate. But how?

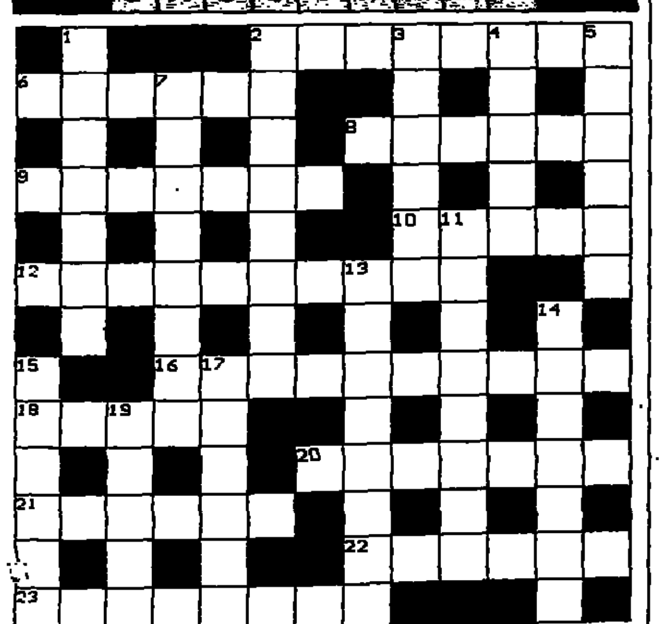
Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 ... Rh1+

Last week's winners: Stevens, St Judes, Bristol; C D Proffitt, Oldham, Lancashire; A Hall, Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex.



TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 839

ACROSS
2 The — —: New York (3,5)
6 Glib (6)
8 Far East temple (6)
9 Deputise (for) (5,2)
10 Fertile spot in desert (5)
12 Difficult progress (5,5)
16 Brown/red earthenware (10)
18 Her face *launch'd a thousand ships (Marlowe)* (5)
20 Height; greatness (7)
21 Arbitrary ruler (6)
22 Esoteric, supernatural (6)
23 Much reduced in size (8)

DOWN
1 Restaurant; cutlery box (7)
2 Hostile encircler (8)
3 S. Am. river; female warrior (6)
4 Religious (5)
5 (Time) go by (6)
7 Introduce novelties (8)
11 One suspending disbelief (8)
13 Idleness (8)
14 In black-and-white terms (7)
15 Gk. island; S. African colonist (6)
17 Prescribe (action): command (6)
19 Optical CD-reading beam (5)

SOLUTION TO No. 838
ACROSS: 1 Mammon 4 Fatal 8 Minus 9 Alumnus 10 Cat 11 Nurse 12 Inferno 14 Outlet 16 Gaggle 20 Tombola 23 Stain 24 Get 25 Upstage 26 Radar 27 Hinge 28 Candle
DOWN: 1 Moment of truth 2 Minaret 3 Obscene 4 Fluff 5 Toner 6 Lose one's nerve 7 Satie 13 Egg 15 Lob 17 Austria 18 Guarded 19 Wager 21 Mason 22 Orate

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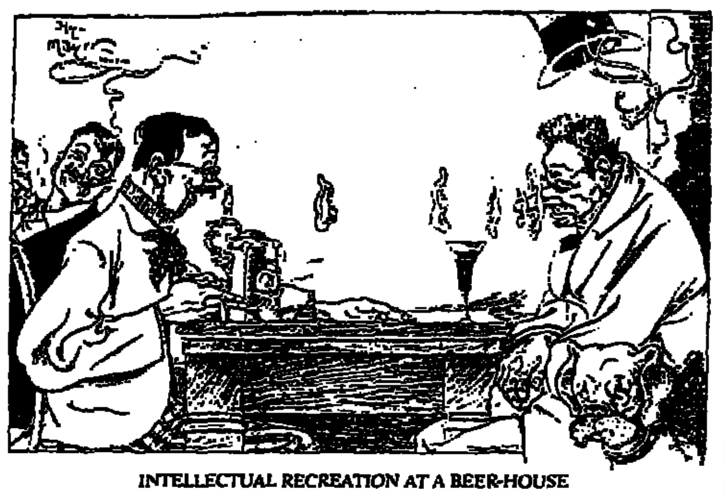
PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from *The Strand Magazine* (reproduced with permission from Westminster Libraries, Sherlock Holmes Collection, Marylebone Library).

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption (9), Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, July 24.



INTELLECTUAL RECREATION AT A BEER-HOUSE

Mother: "If I had a Wonderbra I wouldn't have to sit like this"
Father: "Do they have them for men?"

The winning caption for the cartoon published on last week was submitted by G. Clarke of Crawley, West Sussex

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SHAPOO
a. A massage
b. A breed of sheep
c. A free drink

ASTBURY
a. A hat
b. A sort of pot
c. To play truant

GALPON
a. An Andean pony
b. A shed
c. The plum-cherry cross

BUNCO
a. A cowboy's bed
b. A swindle
c. To depart

Answers on page 23

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

CONSIDER these two positions:

(i) 863
KJ54

(ii) 863
K754

In each case you are East, with dummy on your right. Your partner leads the ten, against a suit contract. The declarer is known to be reasonably strong. Which card do you play?

The correct play, and associated inferences, were critical to the defence of this hand from the quarter finals of this year's Hubert Phillips Cup (the national mixed teams event). Now move over to the West seat; this is the auction, with South the dealer:

S	W	N	E
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

You lead the ten of spades and this is what you can see:

♠863
♥Q82
♦K6
♣KQJ104

♠Q109
♥975
♦AJ97
♣986

N
W E
S

Contract: Four Hearts by South
Lead: the ten of spades

Your partner plays the king of spades on your ten and declarer wins with the ace. He cashes the ace of clubs, on which your partner plays the seven, and continues with a low diamond towards the king. How do you defend?

You can see the danger: declarer is threatening to win the king of diamonds and discard his spade losers on clubs. So West should rise with the ace of diamonds. What now? He knows declarer does not have ace and king of hearts (else he would have crossed to dummy in hearts). But should West play his partner for the jack of spades and king and jack of hearts, or for the ace of hearts?

The clue to that is the first question I asked above: with K J 5 4 of spades, East could safely play the five on the ten of spades — he knows his partner will not have underled an ace. So the play of the king means East cannot have the jack of spades, and thus West should find the winning defence of playing a heart. East wins and returns a spade. The full deal:

♠863
♥Q82
♦K6
♣KQJ104

♠Q109
♥975
♦AJ97
♣986

N
W E
S

♠K754
♥AJ
♦1082
♣7532

♠AJ2
♥K10643
♦Q543
♣A

At the table West was *not* given a chance to find this defence, as East fell at the first hurdle by playing low on the ten of spades. Now Four Hearts was an easy make, with the king of diamonds providing entry to the clubs. East should have played the king of spades on the ten. The ten can be from Q 10 9, and if it is not, then declarer has the A Q J and East's king is doomed anyway.

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

by Tim Wapshott

ONE OF THE classiest racing games around is **The Need for Speed**, from Electronic Arts, which is now available for the Sega Saturn. Cross the old Sega Mega Drive classic Virtua Racing with Sony PlayStation's Destruction Derby and you should get an inkling of the fun to be had.

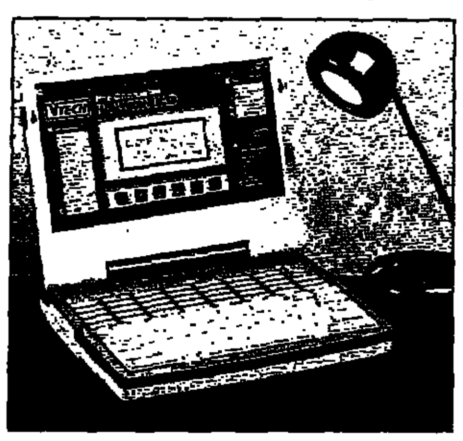
Taking your place behind the wheel of one of eight glistening dream machines, from a Mazda to a Ferrari, players crunch their way through the gears to hit the open road screaming. Often the road is rather cluttered, with other traffic to be avoided during the race; regular pile-ups seem inevitable. Players race over a variety of courses — coastal, alpine and desert — in different weather conditions. Races can last a mere two laps or turn into marathons requiring stamina and endurance. Another option is the time of day the race starts — midday action guarantees good light and, therefore, excellent visibility, but the fading light of evening racing adds treachery to the task and is certainly not for the faint-hearted.

Players can take on computer opponents but it is a better two-player game, the best fun to be had with human players battling it out head-to-head on split-screen. Not only is The Need For Speed engrossing and exhilarating but also probably the only chance you'll get to take such sleek sports cars for a spin.

In contrast, **Speed Haste** is also from Electronic Arts but much less exciting. On PC CD-Rom, this promises racing in either Formula 1 or Stock Car events, with a choice of manual and automatic models and eight courses. For Electronic Arts to have named this game Speed Haste is unfortunate since the thrills barely dribble out. What sense of speed there is to be found only comes at the expense of down-grading graphic detail. The cars drive along well enough and the engine sounds are fairly satisfying but the overall feel is disappointing.

Ordinarily the call to "start your engines" should add something to the atmosphere of a racing game. But here it is delivered by what sounds like some terribly English clot shouting into an empty tin can — unlike the real thing, this is racing on a shoestring.

Of course, it would be reckless to put a child behind the wheel of any sports car — but if you want to capture their attention you could try trucks instead. **Amazing Truckology**, from Maris on PC CD-Rom, is aimed at users aged seven and over and should appeal to most young boys with lorries, large moving machines and anything else vaguely resembling Tonka Toys.



Competition winners receive a VTech Pre Computer Power Pad, worth £85

Tractors, cement mixers, fire engines, JCB-style diggers and combine harvesters all feature, parked up in four sites — farm, quarry, fire station and construction site. Children get a first-person perspective and can experience how it feels to sit in the cab of 15 trucks. Each can be taken for a spin around colourful 3D environments. For further background information there are video and cartoon clips as well as a large catalogue of details which can be called up on any of the vehicles. Seven-year-old users may not initially be excited by fuel consumption or transmission facts, but they'll be fascinated by them soon enough. Amazing Truckology includes several games which entail careful driving, such as ploughing and loading lorries.

And now for something else which should appeal to children — our **Cyberspace Twenty-Five** competition. Three winners will each pick up a VTech Pre Computer Power Pad, worth £85.

With all the look and feel of a real lap-top computer costing 20 times more, the Power Pad is an activity centre with 35 different challenges largely based on spelling and counting. It also includes 1,000 trivia questions and an 80,000-word spell-check feature. The LCD screen covers four lines and the pad has a real QWEWRTY keyboard.

Intended for children aged nine and over, the Power Pad has ten word-games, five maths activities and, through the trivia questions, also explores science, geography and general knowledge. It was voted best electronic learning aid of 1995/96 by the British Association of Toy Retailers.

The competition is open to all readers aged seven to 13. To enter you must complete, in your own words, a funny limerick starting with the line: "There was a little lap-top . . ."

Send your entries, which *must* include your name, age, address and home telephone number to: Cyberspace Twenty-Five, Computer Games and Pastimes, *Weekend*, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The closing date is midnight on Wednesday, July 31. The judges' verdict is final and they will not enter into any additional correspondence.

"Keep on truckin'." Robert Crumb (1972).

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

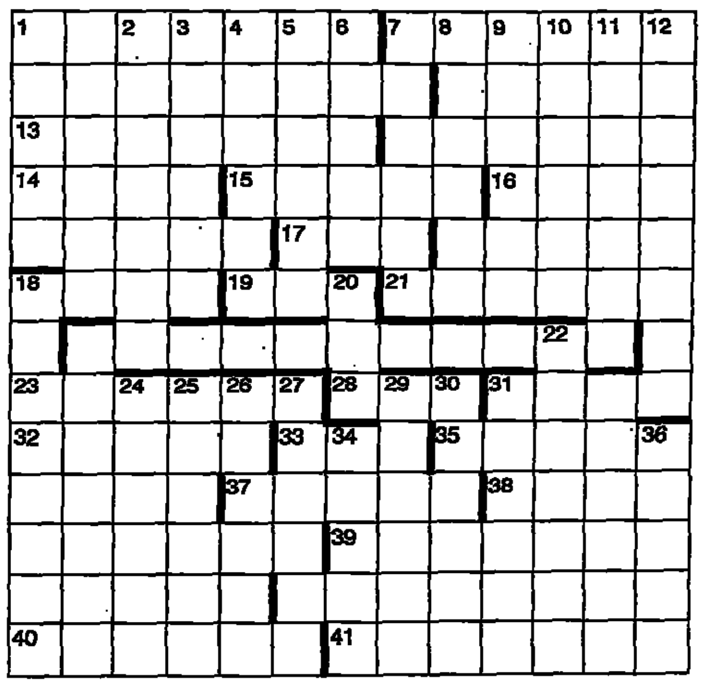
No 3367: Slummer by Sabre

THE 13 unclued lights are of a type, and visited by a travelling knight. Each day's travel finishes on the first letter of an unclued light, and the following day's travel starts from the last letter of that light (with the exception that the first day starts in the top left-hand corner, and the last day finishes in the bottom right-hand corner). Each day's travel is a succession of knight's moves; the journeys are clued in the correct sequence. The central row in the finished diagram provides a vaguely relevant three-word phrase from *ODQ* (2nd edition). All clues are normal, but across and down answers appear in the diagram with a misprint of exactly one letter. *Chambers 93* is recommended; however, the combination form at Day 4 is not explicitly listed, one proper name is only given etymologically, and 2D (in *OED*) occurs under a variant spelling.

DAYS
1 Dismast upset galleon, finally wrecked (6)
2 Courthouse hack seethes with rising anger (7)
3 Frank, hatless, recording square dances (8)
4 Jock's stitch could be worse by end of race (6)
5 Originally protecting Auckland hilltop? (3)
6 Here be hags, pray, upsetting bears (7)
7 Back of gallery approves laughter (4)
8 Centre of dying cell is breaking down: thus? (9)
9 They start early, playing Haydn at half measure (5)
10 Pajamas ripped with anger (9)
11 Feeding cod-fish swallows one child (8)
12 Seraglio, where bird is in hock (6)
13 At least one US city has hold on women (6)
14 Fabulous beast, one safeguarding the door (4)

ACROSS
1 Open talk increases on *mountain-top* (7)
7 Thrashing indigent heartlessly (6)
13 Shave oriental procurator (7)
14 Trees partly indicate a stream (4)
15 *Everybody on small island* gets fish (5)
16 Eyshadow: "black diamonds" you hear (4)
17 Homosexual German gets affirmation (3)
18 Kind of gas to cause pain in burst ears (4)
19 Academician's zip is gone (3)
21 Last of bolt sewed up into rough garments (6)
23 Scatter diamonds — piles dispersed (6)
28 Extra took too much heroin? (3)
31 Jock's cry — it starts game bird (4)
32 A record in steeple climbing (5)
33 Has the power in US to fire depth charge (3)
35 Regret returning American blower (5)
37 Aired again some rarer animations (5)
38 Tayside shrink sees rector in love (4)
39 A guy destroyed tree for rubber (7)
40 Cutting out of breast regenerated goddess (6)
41 Cold stare following one's dance: the end of Sabre! (7)

DOWN
1 With difficulty, old fox hunter runs away (5)
2 Hang its consequences when drunk? (7)
3 Heavenly radiator from boat wife replaced with second (6)
4 An *upright* girl? (6)
5 Set tree-trunk as crosspiece in scaffolding (6)
6 Ethnic music leads to koto wailing with highest pitch (5)
7 Left protective shield to lawman? (6)
8 Refuse container has rough point righted (6)
9 Accuse count who's cared for heraldic device (6)
10 It's not permitted to eat outside: shivering results (6)
11 Wesleyan's bad address, way at end of alley (7)
12 It's radical topping homely teapot-cover with bit of lace (8)
18 Diminutive tenor cheesed off ladies in Ulm (8)
20 Descriptive of big power in Government House (3)
22 Accomplish shine at last in a knife (7)
24 Candles in square arrangements (6)
25 Tight tomboy seen in gym (6)
26 Stranger following bishop's lead would become drunker (6)
27 Light rifles, one hears, seen in Alpinist's hand? (6)
29 South Island follows crazy dance (6)
30 Sandy with tip of blade remade nicks? (6)
34 Slang to be done away with in article (5)
36 Stone slab finishing is not the local trade (5)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3367

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Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3367, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, August 1.

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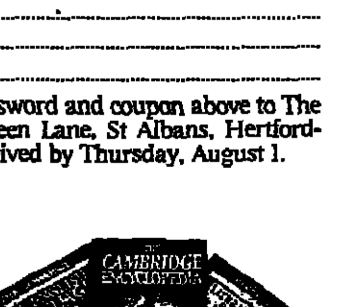

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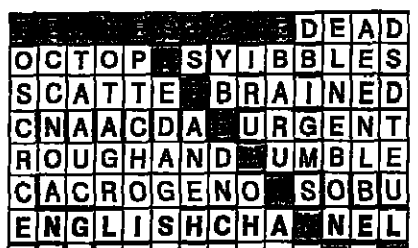
Solution to No 3364: Sleeve Note by Monk

Title — Sleeve + note = manche + la. *La Manche* = ENGLISH CHANNEL (21).

Theme — Initial letters of redundant words spelt out A COLLINS ROBERT FRENCH DICTIONARY. Double across clues gave five English lights (1, 6, 13, 15 and 18, entered 'north' of the 21) together with their French translations (respectively, 40, 39, 37, 38 and 27, entered 'south' of the 21). Crossing the 21 was the FOLKESTONE-EUROTUNNEL-CALAIS link, the elements of which resolved potential ambiguities in the entry of 5 and 24 and 15, 18.

The winner is M.J. Harington, of Warminster, Wiltshire

The two runners-up are R. Thomas, of Bercloux, France, and James O'Hagan, of Livingston, West Lothian.



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O	C	T	O	P		S	Y	I	B	B	L	E	S
S	C	A	T	T	E		B	R	A	I	N	E	D
C	N	A	A	C	D	A		U	R	G	E	N	T
R	O	U	G	H	A	N	D		U	M	B	L	E
C	A	C	R	O	G	E	N	O		S	O	B	U
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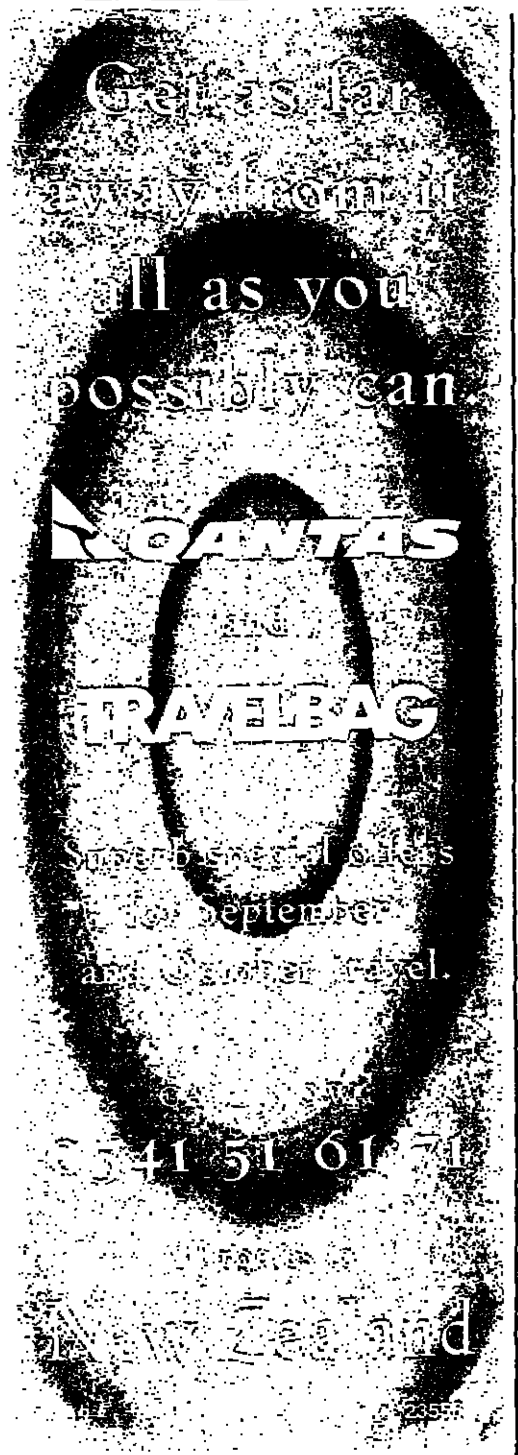
OVERSEAS TRAVEL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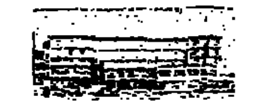

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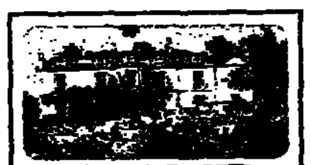

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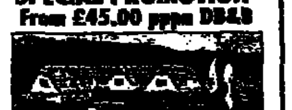

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Why TV ads turn off women who buy cars

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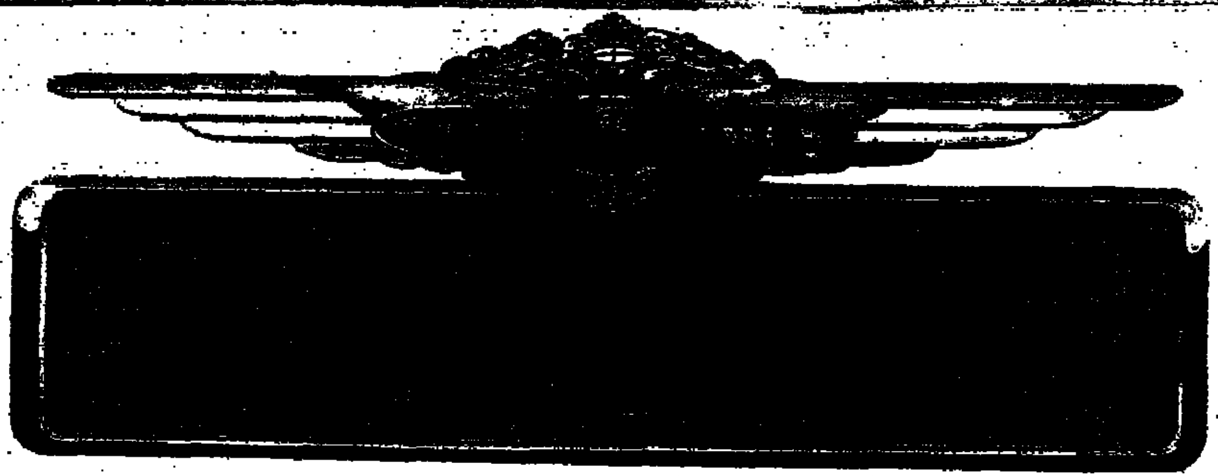

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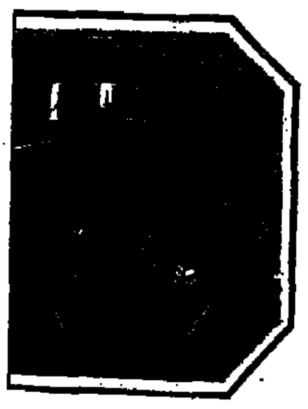
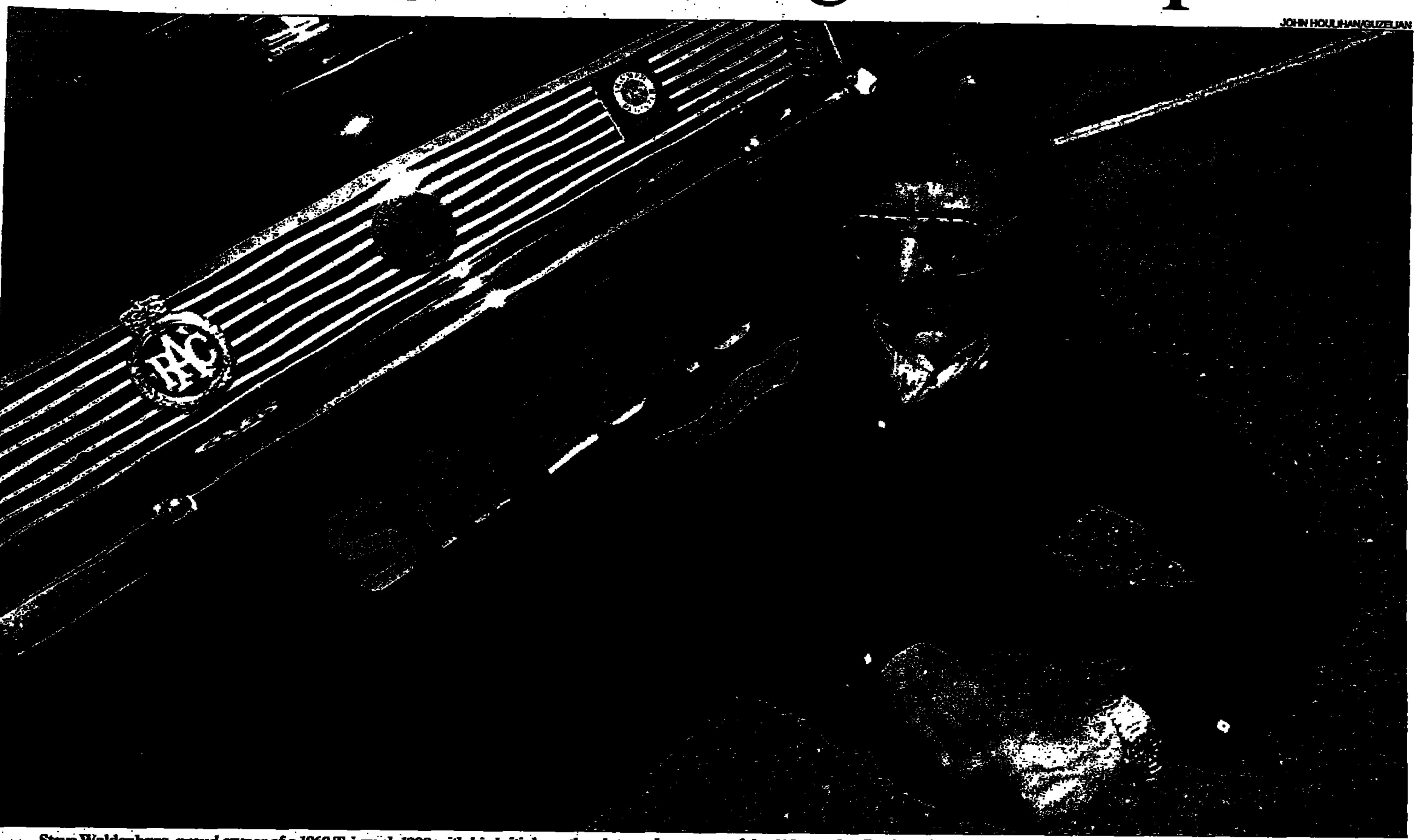


SATURDAY JULY 20 1996

Drivers who put their egos on a plate

Kevin Eason marvels at the mania for personal plates and the prices they bring



JOHN HOULIHAN/GUZELIAN

Steve Waldenburg, proud owner of a 1969 Triumph 1300 with his initials on the plate and secretary of the 600-member Registration Numbers Club. "We are not," he says, "like trainspotters"

Trucks packed with mopeds run an unlikely money trail from Birmingham to Northern Ireland. They set out regularly to Coleraine with two-wheelers but return with number plates that could be worth £2,000 to drivers eager to join motoring's biggest fashion craze.

Personalised number plates are the billboards that shout out the personality of a driver in an age when every car looks as though it has come from the same jelly mould.

Once motorists would have decorated their cars with furry dice and go-faster stripes to make them stand out from the crowd; now they buy a combination of numbers and letters that may simply bear their initials or be composed of some bizarre word-play.

Next month more than 475,000 motorists who want the world to know that they have a new car are likely to buy one with the new P-registration plates. But the driver who hasn't a new car can still make a statement with a personal number, either wacky or bizarre.

Why they want one, nobody knows or even cares — especially the Government, which relaxed the rules on registrations to release a flood of new number plates onto the market six years ago.

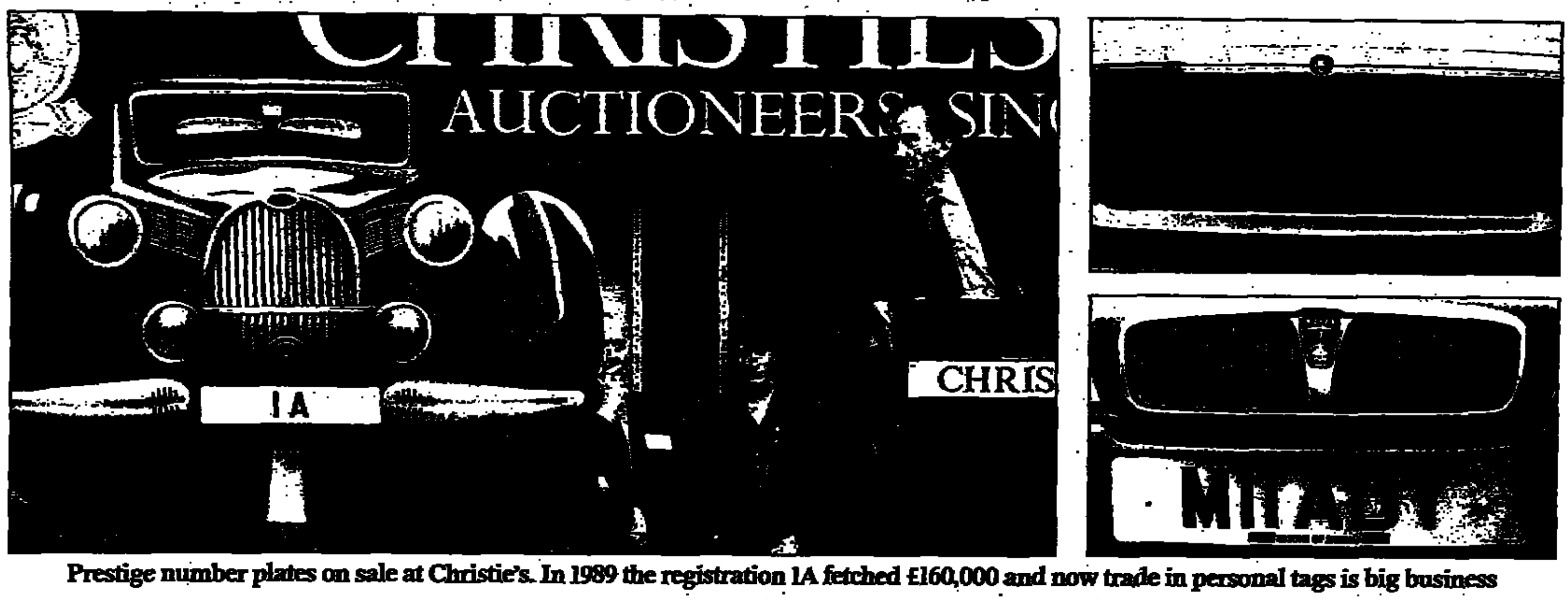
Compared with the effort of privatising British Rail or the nuclear industry, it is the easiest money the Treasury has ever made: Cecil Parkinson, then Transport Secretary, unlocked the vaults in 1989 to tens of thousands of unused numbers and discovered a nation apparently panting to furnish its cars with personalised plates.

Sales so far total more than £200 million. The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency has sold more than 400,000 numbers and is still trawling its records for more to issue: the B prefix went on sale in January and has brought in £5 million while the highest price paid was £235,000 for KI NGS, at an auction three years ago.

Treasury officials simply sit back and count the cash as it rolls in from motorists eager for the numbers and letters that will pick out their humble hatchback from the rest. A whole new industry has sprung up selling another estimated £200 million worth of numbers annually.

It is a most bizarre pursuit, although some motorists are prepared to pay anything — sometimes more than the car is worth — for the numberplate they want.

Tracey Clark, manager of Midland Registrations in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, says: "We have all types of motorist coming here for numbers. We sell plates as cheaply as £99 — but we sold one, RD5, for £20,000."



Prestige number plates on sale at Christie's. In 1989 the registration 1A fetched £160,000 and now trade in personal tags is big business

Midland has developed its own golden trail to Northern Ireland, with an oddball collection scheme which involves storing more around 300 mopeds ready to make the journey to the province's licensing authorities.

Northern Ireland has highly attractive registrations featuring Z, such as BAZ (lots of fun for Basils and Barries) and the latest KAZ series (even more hilarity for Karens and Karols, if there are any misspelt Essex girls out there).

Midland captures a quota by sending the unregistered mopeds to Northern Ireland and registering them with the authorities there. When the mopeds come home, the numbers are transferred to customer cars. The plates sell for between £99 and £2,000.

Steve Waldenberg has his own Irish-bought plate — with SIW for his initials — on his 27-year-old Triumph 1300. Waldenberg is secretary of the Registration Numbers Club, an unlikely collection of 600 people whose hobby has apparently dispensed with the glories of classic car design and style to become fixated by the oblong plates that sit on the cars' bumpers.

"We are not like trainspotters," Waldenberg protests, although the club recently had its annual rally in Staffordshire, where members gathered, parked their cars and ... well, looked at each other's number plates.

"Owning a custom plate is a form of one-upmanship," he adds. "Cars these days look the same, so there is a practical aspect — you can spot yours by the number plate."

Buying personalised plates has another advantage: the P-plate seems destined to be the last annual registration change, a scheme that has caused more than enough chaos, forcing 25 per cent of motor industry sales into a single month just because drivers are so determined to show off their new number.

But personalised plates can disguise the age of a car, bus or truck. When the DVLA released special P-plates last month, among the first in the queue was a breakdown company which bought successive P2, P3 and P4 TOW plates for its lorries.

If only the rest of Britain's motorists had their eyes on such a logical and conservative choice, for the DVLA has discovered dozens whose quest was for a more spicy selection from this August's batch of specials. Officials were forced to issue a polite message to go away to dozens who put P155 OFF high on their hit list.

DVLA officials, ever wary of the problems of taste some plates could cause, have kept that number back on the computer, as they have with some other sensitive combinations. There are no plates that have the letters GOD, for example. And 666 — with its satanist connotation — was for some time withheld.

However, there are plenty of plates of dubious taste still out there: one motorist has got PEN 15, although he was pulled over by police who accused him of obscenity, and 4 KOF also exists somewhere.

Expressing your personality with a plate is one thing — such as the vicar who acquired A20 REV and PC 428 in Worcester who pursued 428 COP; but maybe Debbie Brooke, an air hostess, was a little too up front in expressing her — uhm — personality when she paid £4,000 last month for her special plate. It was 36C, her bra size — and she didn't even own a car.

BEWARE THE SMALL PRINT

Policy bombshell hits terror victims

When Mel Williams's car was smashed and covered in debris by the IRA bomb which ripped through Manchester last month, he was confident his comprehensive policy would cover the damage.

He was quick to telephone his insurance company, Landmark, and tell them of the damage to his Toyota Corolla, though he could not retrieve it from the cordoned-off town centre. But he got a shock: "They told me I wasn't covered at all," he says.

Like most comprehensive policies, his insurance company explained, his stated that damage due to "any consequence of war, invasion ... [or] rebellion" would not be covered. "They told me that they classed the bombing in Manchester as a rebellion from Northern Ireland and rebellions are not covered," he says.

Still uncertain he contacted the AA who described his insurance company's explanation as "nonsense" and reassured him that the company should pay for the damage. He took their advice and his car has subsequently been declared a write-off and Landmark has paid up.

Continued on page 2

IRA claims responsibility, but insurers may deny it

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ST007/SS2249/3/XX

*Rescue costs £36 if you pay by Continuous Credit Card Authority or Direct Debit. Cash enrolment price is £41 and discount applies to your first year membership only. All prices include an enrolment fee. Phone lines open Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm, Sunday 10am – 4pm.

AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● London
A302 *Westminster Bridge;* closed from 9pm Friday until 5am Monday for reconstruction work, use Lambeth as an alternative.
A100 City; Byward Street down to single lane eastbound for reconstruction work at the Great Tower Street junction. Long delays.
A118 Forest Gate; Romford Road down to single lane for widening work between Green *Street and Katherine Road with* temporary lights at weekends.
A503 Tottenham; restrictions on Ferry Lane for major reconstruction of the River Lee *Bridge at Mill Road. Temporary* lights. Long delays into Tottenham one-way system.
A408 Shepherds Bush; delays on Askew Road. Temporary *lights.*

● South-East
M4 junctions 12-14; overnight lane closures from 10pm until 6am between Theale and *Hungerford will take the motorway* down to a single lane at times.
A4020 New Denham; works between the Denham round*about and the* Coach and Horses pub with temporary lights off peak.
A423 Banbury; lane restrictions on the Southam Road.
***M20** junction 8; lane closed.*
A249; *restrictions* west of for dual carriageway work with 40mph speed limit.
M25 junctions 6-10; major *widening* work from Godstone to Reigate with 30mph speed restriction.

● South-West
M5 junctions 17-20; lane *restrictions* both ways *between* Bristol West and Clevedon especially over the Avonmouth Bridge with 50mph speed restriction.
A354 Milbourne *St Andrew;* temporary lights.
A417 Brockworth; lane closures on the Brockworth bypass.
A3062 *Bath;* delays on Ralph Allen Drive at peak periods.
A3102 Swindon; *major* roadworks at the Mannington roundabout with traffic down to a single *lane. Long delays.*

● Midlands and East Anglia
***A617** Temple Normanton; ma*jor works between Chesterfield and the M1 with 40mph speed restriction.
Hampton Lovett; temporary *lights* and 10mph speed limit.
A6 Leicester; roadworks on the London Road between Mayfield Road Island and Stoughton Road.
A6 Lockington; contraflow both ways between Warren *Lane and* Netherfield Lane.
M180 junctions 5-4; contraflow with two lanes eastbound and one lane westbound between *Barnetby and Scawby.*
A1 Coddington; lane restrictions between Coddington and Newark.
A137 Ipswich; lane closures on West End Road for bridge repairs.
A41 Tipton; Black Country *Spine Road closed north*bound for repairs from Navigation roundabout to Parkway roundabout. Diversion.

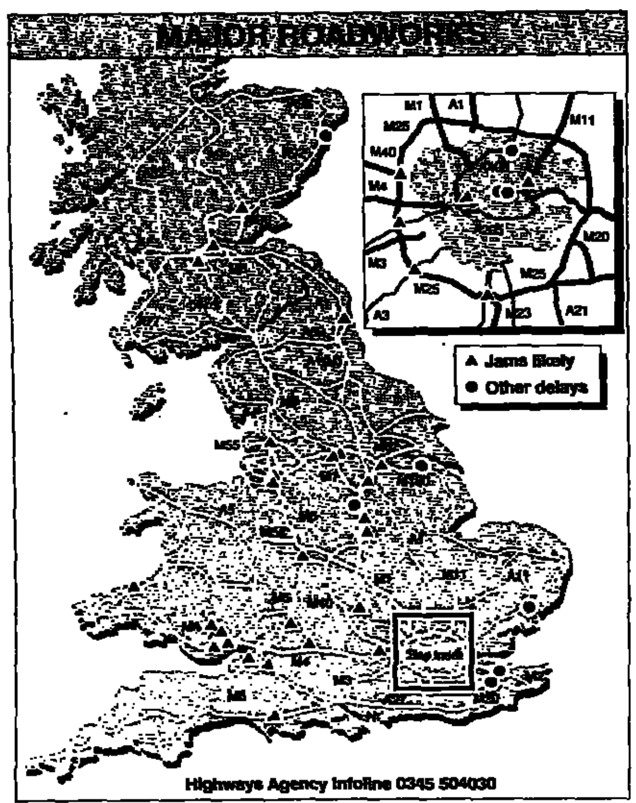
● North
A167M Newcastle; Central motorway down to single lane *each* way for work between the New Bridge Street roundabout and just north of Jesmond Road.
M6 junctions 20-21a; roadworks and contraflow with three narrow lanes in both directions.
***M6** junctions 30-32; lane clo*sures in both directions (Monday-Friday).
M1 junction 47; major roadworks with lane closures and a *30mph speed restriction.*
M62 junction 28; *lane restric*tions and 30*mph* speed limit for roadworks.
M18 junction 1-M1; contraflow *between Rotherham and* Thurcroft. Long peak-time delays.

● Wales
A470 Llyswen; temporary lights at Llangoed *Hall.*
***M4** at junctions 23A-24;* contraflow and lane closures with a 50mph speed limit.
A4042 between Pontypool and Little Mill; lane closures and contraflows. Delays at peak *periods.*
***A472** Pontypool; contraflow* and lane closures between Miskin and Pencoed with 50mph speed limit.
***A482** Aberaeron Upper Bridge* closed with traffic being diverted via the A487.

● Scotland
A90 Aberdeen; restrictions at the roundabout on either side of the bridge of Dee.
M8 *junction 15; westbound* traffic restricted at Townhead to three narrow lanes with slip road closures.
A90 Longforgan; lane closures *in both directions.*
A725 East Kilbride Expressway Total closure of the westbound off ramp to Main Street, Blantyr.
A761 Paisley; lane restrictions *at Ferguslie in both directions.*

● Northern Ireland
***A3** Portadown; restrictions on* the Northway at junction with Mill Avenue.
A21 Comber; restrictions on Hillsborough Road with delays likely.
A5 Milltown; lane closures on Strabane Road with temporary lights between Sion Mills and Newtonstewart.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



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94M BMW 316i Coupe Auto, Bright Red, P.A.S, Alloys, 22K £14,575
92J Land Rover Discovery TDI S 2.5 Man, 7 Seater, Metallic Grey, Dbl.S/Roof, P.A.S, Alloys, 45K £13,575
94L Mercedes C-Class 1.8 Man, Black, P.A.S, Elec.Mirrors, F.S.H, 56K £12,975
94M Omega CDX 2.5 V6 Man, Blue, P.A.S, Air Con, 38K £12,975
92J BMW 318i Convertible, Red, P.A.S, Alloys, F.S.H, 22K £12,975
94L Mazda MX5 Coupe Auto, Metallic Red, Elec.S/Roof, P.A.S, Alloys, A.B.S, 36K £12,775
93L Rover 220 Turbo Coupe Man, Tahiti Blue, Cream Leather, S/Roof, P.A.S, 15K £12,575
93K BMW 320 SEi 4dr Man, Metallic Red, Elec.S/Roof, P.A.S, Alloys, 38K £11,975
92J V.W.Golf 2.0 GTI 5dr, Metallic Blue, Elec.S/Roof, P.A.S, Alloys, 55K £8,575
96N Renault Clio RN 1.9 Diesel 5dr, Red, P.A.S, 2K £8,575

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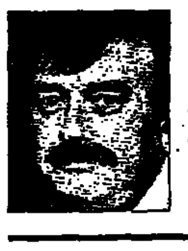
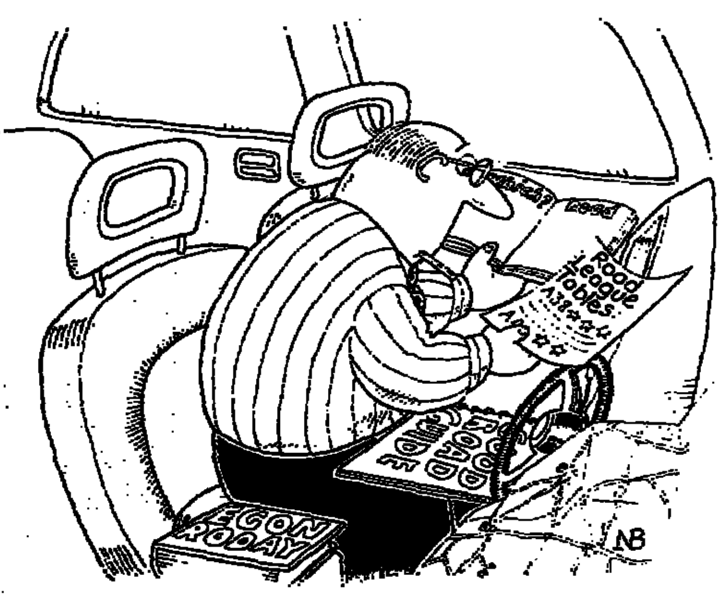
The Government's plan to produce journey times for roads is a PR nonsense that will create a speeder's charter

A timetable for turmoil

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard



The Government's plan to issue league tables of the most and least-stressed roads, together with an indication as to how long a given journey should take, comes as no surprise to me. *It only confirms* that someone at the Department of *Transport has been eating infected* beef.

The trouble with this kind of madcap initiative is that it tends to infect others. The motoring organisations, normally bastions of good sense, have on this occasion blown a fuse: *they have given the move* a guarded welcome and added a lunacy of their own.

Both the AA and the RAC apparently want rebates for drivers if estimated journey times are not met. Edmund King of the RAC is quoted as saying: "Passengers on the railways get money back if trains are *late, why not do the same* if the road network is not up to scratch?"

I can only think of about 300 instant reasons for not doing that, Ed. For a start, how would such a system be administered? What proof would there be that a driver had made the journey at all, let alone taken more time that it was supposed to take?

The difference between trains and cars is that trains travel on tracks at fixed speeds between fixed points. They *rarely* encounter a queue of trains in front, or five miles of cones, or a driver who has stopped for a picnic beside the track.

There is a particular problem about this scheme which poses road-safety questions. Motorways are generally very safe, but the one danger they present is that drivers assume a given journey will take a given length of time.

If I drive from London to Bristol, I expect that journey to take two hours. Research has shown that a delay caused by an accident or a contraflow system will not affect the driver's perception of the journey time: he or she will simply increase *their speed in order to counteract the* effects of the delay.

But at least at the moment the driver has to take the blame for that. The publication of journey *timetables*, due in 1988, will simply *reinforce a bad habit.* We will *start* to blame "them" for something that is our fault. The plan is thus dangerous as well as crazy.

A table produced by the AA shows that journey times have lengthened between last year and this. London-*Liverpool*, for example, took 3hrs 57mins last year but takes 4hrs 42mins this year. I know you don't *think it takes* that long, but of course the time is calculated from city centre to city centre, wherein lies the nub of the problem.

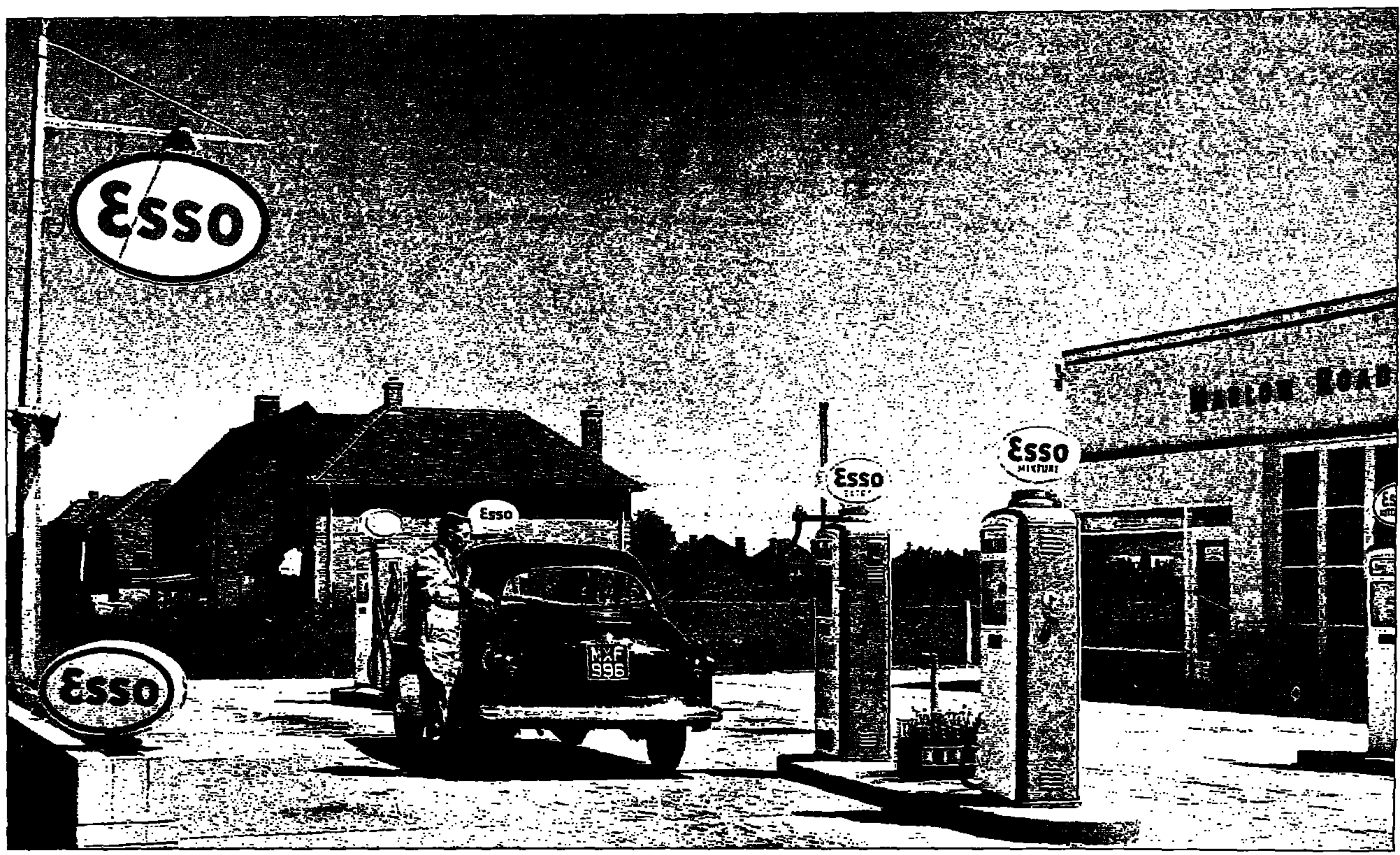
In the ten years since 1982, the number of cars doubled *but the road* network increased by only 17 per cent. *There is little hope* of those proportions improving because *road-building* is now out of fashion.

Not that building roads would necessarily help, because the key areas which cause longer journeys are in cities, where road-widening is rendered almost impossible *because* of existing limitations. London's Victoria *Embankment, one of the* slowest crawls known to motoring, *could only* be widened by narrowing the Thames (an unlikely prospect).

League tables, target journey times and all the rest of the gobbledegook do not, therefore, amount to a row of beans. This latest scheme is pure public relations, much *like the redesignation of the* A38 in Devon as an "expressway".

This plan only delays the evil day when a proper public transport system will have to be put in place to get people off the roads. Of course, that will cost money and require political nerve and imagination. So don't hold your breath. An office *block full of pen-pushers producing* league tables is not a solution, it is a *substitute* for doing nothing. But only just.

Tens of thousands of cars could be forced off the road, says **Vaughan Freeman**



Forecourt furore: classic car owners say unleaded fuel could wreck the valves of their engines. They argue that the clean-air proposals will have no real environmental effect

Leaded petrol ban fuels fear for aged motors

As *many as* 80,000 classic and historic cars and 50,000 vintage motorcycles could be forced off the roads by new clean-air proposals to scrap leaded fuel.

The proposals, outlined *this* week and likely to be in force *within four years,* also *mean* that a further two million motorists driving cars built in the 1980s will either have to scrap them, have them converted at a cost of around £200 or else use fuel additives.

*Classic car lovers are furi*ous, claiming the move is no *more* than a public relations ploy which will make no measurable difference to the cleanliness of the nation's air.

If adopted, the European Commission proposals could put Peter Glover's charming fleet of prewar cars out of action. Glover, chairman of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs, owns a brace of Alvis 1250s dating from 1927, as well as a 1924 Vauxhall 30/98. He covers *around 4,000 miles a year in* each car, but that would end if the only fuel on sale was unleaded. The alternative, he says, would be to use untried additives, or to commission the building of new engines at *around £4,000 per car.*

"Banning leaded fuel would curtail the use of cars like mine," he says. "We would have to engineer a different type of cylinder head or engine block with hardened valve seats, or use fuel additives which are unproven.

"Vehicles built before 1950 in particular will be seriously affected because their engines have valve seats made of soft iron which are sited in cast-*iron cylinder heads.*"

The use of lead in petrol was introduced in the mid 1920s. It lubricates the valve seats to prevent excessive wear. Without the lead in petrol, the valve seats quickly become worn and damaged.

Glover adds: "Most postwar cars can be converted to run on unleaded fuel by having hardened valve seats fitted, but that is not possible on many cars, particularly those built in the 1920s and 1930s. A lot of these vehicles do not *have a detachable cylinder* head, but a cylinder head and engine block cast all in one. The valves in such an engine are all very close together and sited effectively at the end of a long tunnel which is often *inaccessible.*

"There are probably around 80,000 pre-1940 cars in Britain, 30,000 of which are used regularly, and there are another 50,000 motorcycles of the same age, 10,000 of which are used *regularly.*"

He says that even if every one of those vehicles was to run on the nation's roads all at once, the impact on the environment, amid a national vehicle population now exceeding 25 million, would be insignificant.

Millions of everyday cars will also need to be adapted says David McConnell, of the Society of Motor *Manufactur*ers and Traders: "By the year *2000, current projections are* that there will be at the most 2.8 million cars still running on leaded fuel, out of a total car population of 26.2 million cars, some 3.4 million of which are likely to be diesel.

"Of the 22.8 million petrol-engined cars, 16 million are *likely to be unleaded, and 40* per cent of the remaining 4.8 million, at a conservative estimate, will be able to be adapted to run on unleaded."

The two million motor*ists able to convert* their cars will each have to pay around £200 at today's prices to do so. Head of AA Research and Materials Testing, John Stubbs says: "The problem is *that the plain cast iron of older* cars, such as Minis and MGBs, was not heat-treated and is relatively soft and prone to being eroded by petrol without lead.

"As the soft valve seat is *eroded in the cylinder head,* the valve clearances disappear because the valve goes up into the head. The valve will not be *seating properly and will not* be conducting heat away from the cylinder head so that the material of the valves begins to burn away. As a result the engine loses compression and runs slower and slower."

For most engines though says Stubbs, conversion should not be a problem: "It is a straightforward job to have valve seat inserts put in. The cylinder head is taken off, a ridge is bored into the valve *seat, and an insert of heat* resistant alloy is put in. The other *option might* be additives but in the long term the answer would be valve seat inserts, costing around £200."

Old car enthusiasts are watching with interest *how* their counterparts in New Zealand, where leaded petrol was banned earlier this year, are coping using additives to mimic the role of lead in fuel. Peter Henley, chairman of the Vintage Sports Car Club's fuels sub-committee, believes effective additives could be developed, but argues: "The most satisfactory solution, giv*en the number* of cars in Britain that use leaded, would I think be a postponement of the ruling, allowing a gradual decrease in the demand for leaded fuel as the number of cars needing it falls."

Bruce Petter, director of the Petrol Retailers Association, *says, "I think it is inevitable* that the European Commission *proposal* will be adopted, and I also think beyond doubt that it is desirable.

"From a retail point of view it is not a problem to do the necessary transfer of pumps over from leaded to unleaded fuel. It will help *distribution,* and make life easier in the future with the design and layout of service stations."

The proposed moratorium on leaded fuel is part of a package of clean-air proposals drawn up by *the European* Commission following advice from the World Health Organisation, and research by the EC and the European oil and motor industries under the umbrella of the European Auto-Oil programme.

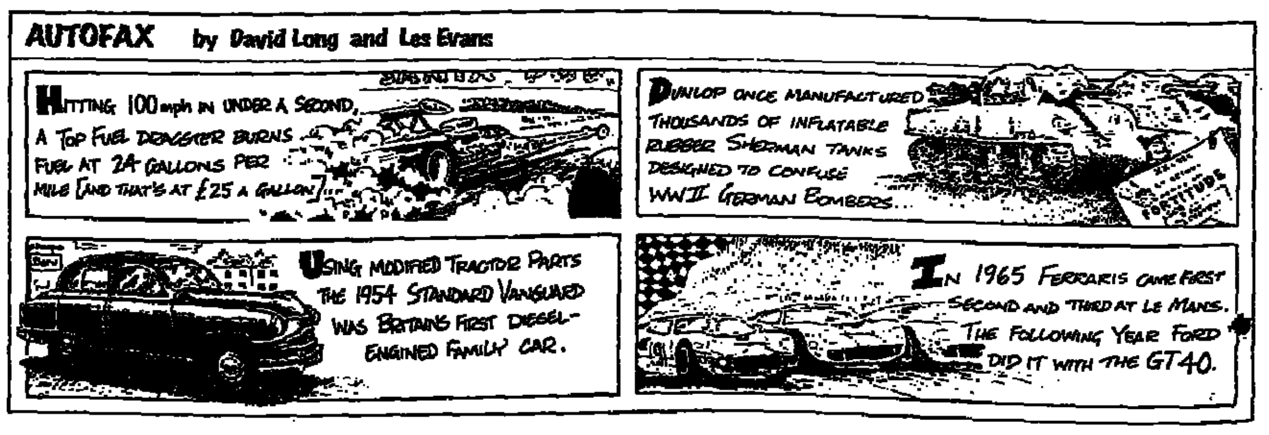
Continued from page 1

Most car owners whose vehicles were burned, damaged or destroyed by the Manchester bomb should have had no trouble making a claim, unless they had no more than third-party insurance. According to the Association of British Insurers, damage caused by hostilities "including civil war, *whether de*clared or not" is not covered in insurance policies but most companies were taking a sympathetic view.

Riots are different though: *many* insurers were waiting to hear whether the trouble in Trafalgar Square following *England's semi-final match* against Germany during Euro 96 would be officially declared a riot because *they* might be able to reclaim payouts from the Government if it is. In theory, insurance *companies could still make a* counter-claim against the police, *who have a legal duty* to quell riots, although that is unlikely.

Up to now insurance companies are treating customers caught up in disturbances sympathetically and the Insurance Ombudsman *has re*ceived no complaints. But the ABI say that it is too early for problems to surface and cases similar to Williams's could *well still* turn up.

AUTOFAX by David Long and Les Evans


HITTING 100mph IN UNDER A SECOND, A TOP FUEL DRAGSTER BURNS FUEL AT 24 GALLONS PER MILE [AND THAT'S AT £25 A GALLON]...
DUNLOP ONCE MANUFACTURED THOUSANDS OF INFLATABLE RUBBER SHERMAN TANKS DESIGNED TO CONFUSE WWII GERMAN BOMBERS...
FORTITUDE
USING MODIFIED TRACTOR PARTS THE 1954 STANDARD VANGUARD WAS BRITAIN'S FIRST DIESEL-ENGINED FAMILY CAR.
IN 1965 FERRARIS CAME FIRST SECOND AND THIRD AT LE MANS. THE FOLLOWING YEAR FORD DID IT WITH THE GT40.

The stunning Elise returns the troubled carmaker to its forte — lightweight sportsters, says **Kevin Eason**

Spartan star tips the scales Lotus's way

Romano Artioli was obviously a lot wilier than any of us imagined. All the time he was holding out for a top price — reported to be as much as £60 million — for Lotus and the motoring world scoffed at his optimism.

What he knew and we didn't was all about Elise, the new sports car from the Norfolk company he bought from General Motors. For the Elise could change the fortunes of a company which has been hard-pressed ever since its founder, Colin Chapman, died in 1982. Without his charismatic leadership, the Formula One team has disappeared and the carmaking side of the company has had to. exist effectively on selling one model, the Esprit, which has been in production in various guises for 20 years.

But Chapman would have loved the Elise simply because it takes Lotus back to its roots when the company made spartan sports cars full of character and performance.

Forget all those modern notions that cars should have carpets and radios and buttons to press: the Elise has none of that nonsense. The Elise is so bare, it is the bikini-wearer of the motoring world; a near-naked car so scantily dressed it cannot even pretend not to have any frills because there is nowhere to hang them, anyway.

If you are clutching your building society book with £20,000 to throw away on a toy, stop making comparisons between the Elise and every other sports car on the road — from the MGF to the Mazda MX-5 — because it isn't like anything else on the road.

For a start, the fiddly cloth hood will have your thumbs swathed in Elastoplast. Sam Brown, Lotus's public relations man, and I struggled for ten minutes undoing catches and pushing and pressing bars into place before we gave up and he took a collection of bits back to his office.

Climbing into the car was a bit of a shock because you actually do climb in; the tiny door is no more than a pretence of normality because it masks a high ledge over which you clamber on to a thin, stiff seat. Only the driver's seat is adjustable, forwards and backwards, facing a tiny steering wheel (no airbag) and two white dials, a speedo and rev counter.

Sitting inside the extraordinary aluminium chassis, a box-shaped spaceframe made by Danish aluminium specialists, Hydro, who glue it together rather than weld, you are surrounded by two composite "clam-shell" pieces of bodywork which are hung on to the frame. The spartan feel was emphasised by bare metal everywhere — no carpets, no traditional armrests or reassuring pockets.

For a moment, I was disconcerted: perhaps the trim chaps had forgotten some vital bits and Sam would come dashing out of his office clutching pieces of leather and wood to screw on to the dashboard.

No. I was all on my own and wondering about this back-to-nature motoring experience. Until I fired up the Rover 1.8-litre engine — the one that comes from the MGF — shifted the metal gear stick into first and let up the drilled metal clutch pedal. Then I was in something as close to motoring heaven as you can get ... in Norfolk, anyway.

The driving experience is race car meets the roads. There is only 118 brake horse power at most from the mid-mounted engine, but the Elise weighs just 690 kilogrammes — more than 300 kilos less than an MGF — so there was almost nothing to propel apart from my over-lunched chump clothed in cap and anorak.

There was no need to learn the car's quirks and foibles because there were none. The Elise embodies the simplest philosophy for sportscar motoring: just put your backside on the seat and drive.

Traction was immediate, the rear wheels gripping hard with no wheelspin to make the official 0 to 62mph time of 5.9 second seem understated (in fact, one magazine recently tested the Elise from 0 to 30mph at just 1.8 seconds).

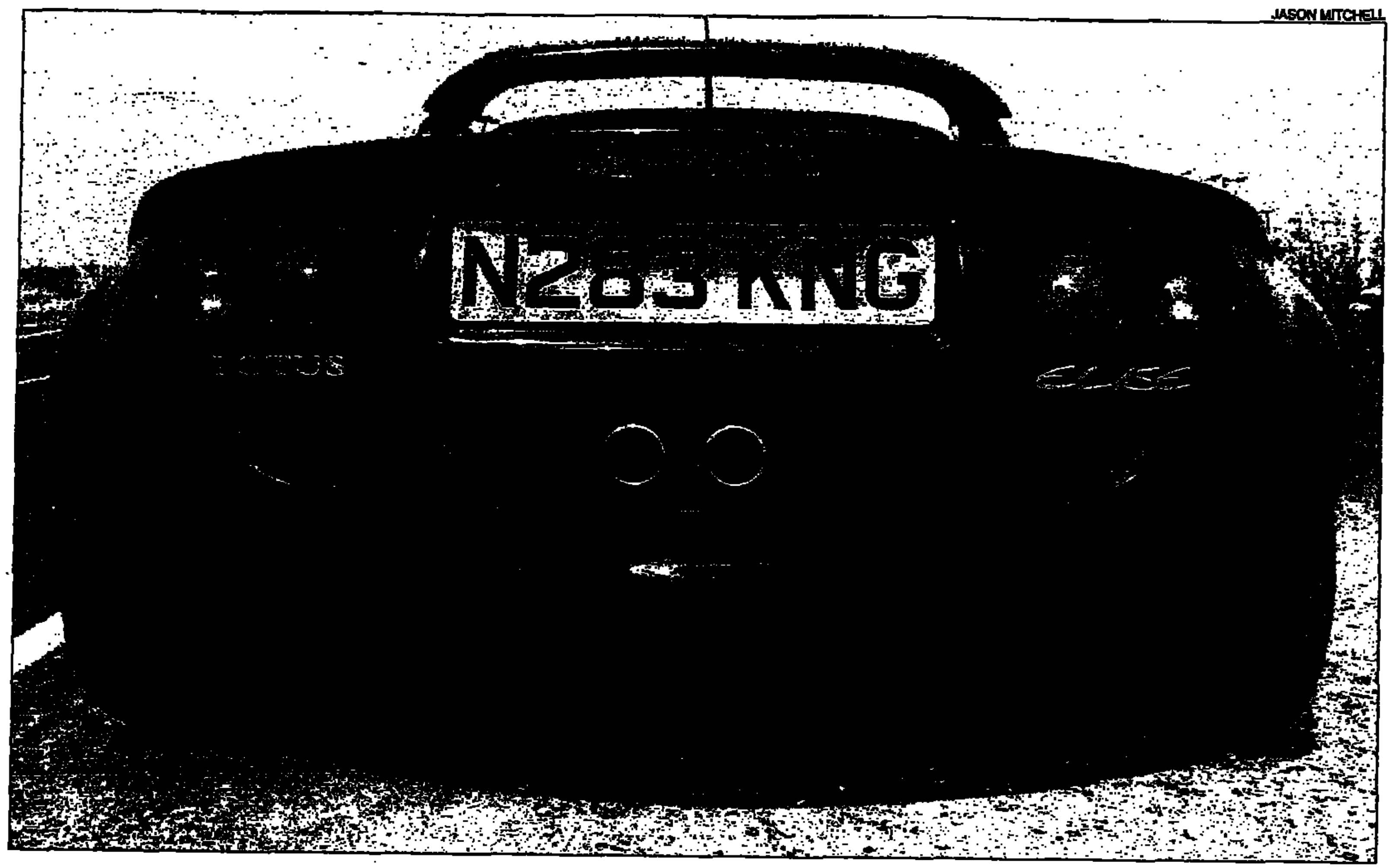
Forget the statistics though, for the joy of the Elise is in the driving, every response and turn accurate and immediate. There was the occasional pothole-induced thump from the suspension but the chassis felt rigid and well-behaved, the handling as good as anything I have ever driven.

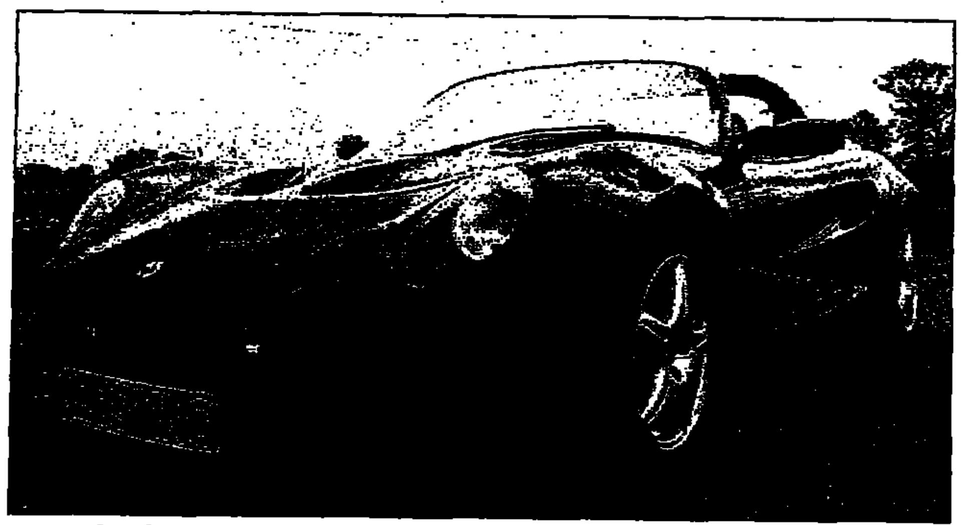
Response to the Elise is so overwhelming that this year's allocation of 400 cars is already sold out, each with a £1,000 deposit. Only 800 cars are scheduled to leave the factory at Hethel, near Norwich, next year and Lotus is wary of being persuaded to step up output; it remembers the pain of its financially burnt fingers when it launched the much-applauded Elan, unfortunately on the eve of recession and ended up with cars it couldn't sell.

Surely though the Elise will be a sell-out success simply because there is nothing else to compete. The MGF, while a fantastic car, is much more sensible; a hot hatchback alternative for people in business suits. Only the Renault Spider comes near for exhilaration, although its extra engine power is tempered by extra weight and a cost expected to be about £5,000 more.

The Elise is the car that could put Lotus back on track after its years in the wilderness. It has produced a car that Colin Chapman would have been proud of and enthusiasts will adore. They don't come along too often in the modern era, but the Elise is already a classic. Lotus has the car, all it now needs is a White Knight to take the business off Mr Artioli's hands to provide the financial security the company desperately needs.

JASON MITCHELL





An engine, four wheels, a spaceframe, excellent handling and speed — and little else

LOTUS ELISE

Name: christened after grandaughter of Romano Artioli, chairman of Group Lotus-Bugatti combine.
For sale: now in UK, Europe in September.
Size: toytown meets the racetrack. Weighs 670kg (Mini 679kg); length 3,726mm (Mini 3,048mm), width 1,701mm (1,397mm).
Engine: mid-mounted Rover four-cylinder, 1.8-litre for 118bhp at 5,500rpm through five-speed manual gearbox driving rear wheels.
Brakes and tyres: hard-wearing aluminium matrix disc brakes; unique to Elise — Pirelli P Zero, 15-inch front, 16-inch rear.
Performance: 0 to 62mph in 5.9 seconds, top speed 124mph, av. fuel economy 39.4mpg.
Equipment: cloth hood, passenger footrest, locking wheelnuts ... er, that's it.
Price: £19,950
Extras: radio fitting kit £150, leather seats £585, metallic paint £690, immobiliser £295.
Warranty: eight years on chassis, one year mileage and AA breakdown insurance.

MCLAREN CLUB

Win yourself a £190 chance to meet the grand prix team

■ FOR THE second grand prix running, McLaren cars have been in the points, signalling a return to form for one of the world's best Formula One teams. Millions watched Mika Hakkinen and David Coulthard on television at last week's British Grand Prix, but many fans get closer to the cars and drivers. The Team McLaren members' club gives exciting opportunities for fans to see their heroes and their amazing machines close up.

■ YOU COULD be among them, for Marlboro McLaren Mercedes is offering a year's free membership to the Team McLaren Club, which is normally £45-a-head or £69 for family membership. Members receive a starter pack, including the Team McLaren polo shirt, membership card, poster of this year's car, car sticker, badge, monthly issues of *Racing Line* magazine and a brochure offering clothing and other items. Members can also take part in McLaren events and have the chance to win trips to the European grands prix and McLaren's headquarters in Woking.

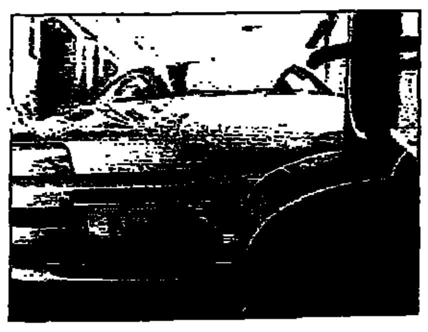
BUT A *Car 96* reader can short-circuit the process by winning this valuable membership. There are also three runners-up prizes of McLaren VIP sweatshirts. There is an additional sensational prize for fans who want to join the McLaren Team whether they win or not: the first five people to call the membership hotline on 01274-771833 (lines open 9am - 9pm today) will receive a cap signed by David Coulthard and Mika Hakkinen.

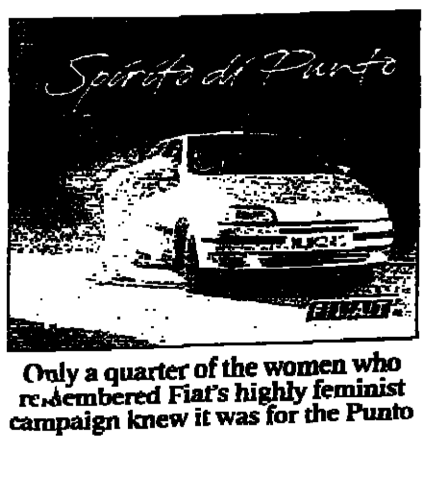
■ ANSWER these questions for our *Car 96* competition and send on a postcard to Admail 622, Woking, Surrey GU21 1WH. Usual rules apply, closing date July 29.

1. What are the colours of David Coulthard's helmet, and what do they signify?
2. McLaren is one of the most successful teams in Formula One, with how many grands prix victories?
3. What is the number of Mika Hakkinen's car?

Girls just want to have facts

Airhead adverts with scantily clad females driving feisty lifestyle runabouts just turn women buyers off, reports **Morag Preston**





Only a quarter of the women who remembered Fiat's highly feminist campaign knew it was for the Punto

Television images of scantily clad females, with perfectly applied lipstick and all the charm of an airbag, tearing through the desert in a feisty red car, are objectionable, or, at best, unmemorable, according to a report published this week.

Three out of five women feel patronised by car advertisements on television, and almost three-quarters feel stereotyped, says the report from Cowie, the motor retailers. Rather than so-called sexy storylines that reverse the idea of motoring as a male function, women want more information.

Women drivers want to know how much a car costs and how safe it is, not whether the colour of the dashboard clashes with their nail varnish. Less than half of those women interviewed said that television advertising had any influence on their choice of car. They cited talking to car dealers or taking recommendations from friends as far more profitable leads.

Coming in the crucial run-up to the August new-registration rush, when a quarter of all new cars are sold, half of them to women, this should be food for thought for an industry that spends £500 million a year on advertising, around £200 million of it on television.

Peugeot's "Nice car — want to show me what it can do?" was the advertisement most remembered among those women questioned, but only half could actually link it to the 306 model. Significantly, the advertisement that was first launched through Euro RSCG in October 1994, featuring a man and a woman in an underground car-park, was also the one most disliked by women. Although the *femme fatale* eventually turns out to be his wife and the mother of his twins, the suggestive shots of her undressing on the beach and rubbing her head against his car seat, female viewers found insulting.

Margaret Britten, a fleet co-ordinator for the construction suppliers ARC, describes the Peugeot 306 advertisement as "a real turn-off". The 27-year-old owner of a Vauxhall Cavalier, she says: "It tells too much of a story, and says nothing about the car. The advert sticks in my mind, but the make of the car doesn't." She switches off at the "girlie girlie ads" because she finds them so patronising, and the cars that they feature are always "so small". Instead, Margaret prefers the information-packed advertisement made by Delaney Fletcher Bozwel for the American Chrysler Neon: "It's boring, but it lets me know that I can get everything I want for an all-in price."

Peugeot's *Thelma and Louise*-style advert reflects its "fun" ethos

But according to Andrew Didlick, Peugeot's advertising manager, who commands a £40 million annual budget that is split equally between press and television advertising: "It's all about buying into the emotional idea. An advert that just says this car has four doors, a steering wheel, and a gearbox, is boring. Chrysler is still at the stage where it has to re-establish its name in this country." Didlick adds that women want advertisements that promise "independence, fun, and adventure", just like the Peugeot 106 commercial with its *Thelma and Louise*-style storyline.

Ford, which tops the advertising spending league among motor manufacturers with a £70 million annual budget, the majority of which goes towards television, has adopted a similar female stereotype of the go-get'em mould to promote the Fiesta. The female driver, who takes to the wheel proves that her Fiesta is "not for the small minded". Although twice as many women drive a Ford as any other car, the campaign was recognised by only 45 per cent of women; less than half of whom linked it to the Fiesta.

> 'Women tend to feel patronised more easily'

David Miller, European client services director at Ogilvy & Mather, Ford's advertising agency, which came up with the campaign catchline "your 16-valve hairdryer" after recruiting women's magazine *Marie Claire* to advise on creative work, predicts a change in the way that smaller cars are advertised. "This is a very sensitive market, and women don't like being singled out," he says, adding that women tend to feel more easily patronised than men. "Females dominate adverts for small cars, but we shouldn't be so systematic."

Until that change comes about, Glenna Tunski, a 44-year-old fleet co-ordinator at Imperial Tobacco, complains that "car adverts are all the same. They've gone too far."

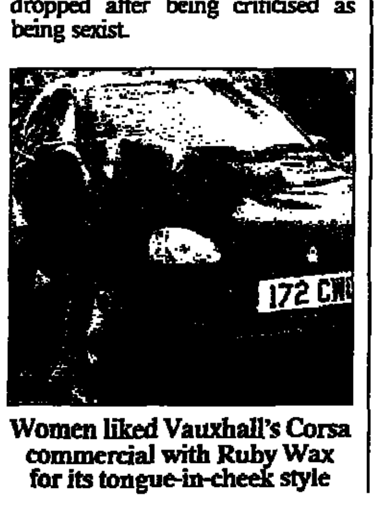
When Glenna changed her car from a Mazda to a Corsa, she says that it was the cost of insurance and the promise of greater security that swayed her decision. "I think women are more sensible than men and will look into buying a car more deeply."

Slightly less memorable than the Peugeot 306 commercial, but with a higher brand awareness, was Renault's soap opera set in Paris, which revolves around the sylph-like Nicole and her indulgent Papa.

More than three quarters of those questioned were able to link it to the Clio. According to Glenna: "It's not as sexist or as patronising. Nicole's father drives the same car, and we have watched her grow up from a little girl into an executive female."

Another advertisement that fares better than most is comedienne and anti-sex-symbol Ruby wax's promotion of the Vauxhall Corsa — "the little car with the big personality". Ninety per cent of women surveyed recognised the tongue-in-cheek commercial that features the brash American marshalling men on one of her many shopping trips. Furthermore, 70 per cent of those could name the car in question.

A spokesman at Vauxhall, which spends £52 million per year on advertising through Lowe Howard-Spink, boasts: "We don't target gender, we target buyers. We play on humour." Remember, then, that Lowe Howard-Spink was the agency responsible for the Vauxhall Corsa advertisements starring supermodels Naomi Campbell and Linda Evangelista that were later dropped after being criticised as being sexist.



Women liked Vauxhall's Corsa commercial with Ruby Wax for its tongue-in-cheek style

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96 (N) A4 Avant 1.9 TDi SE 110 BHP. Laser red, S/roof	£P.O.A.
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- 96N A4 1.8 SE, [illegible] Green, Auto, 3,000 miles, Climate Control
- 96N A6 2.6 E ESTATE, Silver, 6,000 miles, Alloys, Automatic
- 96N A8 4.2 QUATTRO SPORT, Emerald Green, 4,000 miles, Demo
- 96N COUPE 2.6E, Indigo Blue, 21,000 miles, Air Con, Alloys, 1 Owner, FSH
- 95M A6 2.5 TDI SE ESTATE (140 Bhp), 18,000 miles, Amazon Green
- 95N A4 1.8 SALOON, Amazon Green, ESR, C/Locking, PAS, 1,000 miles
- 93L 2.3 CABRIOLET, Silver, Automatic, 12,000 miles, Blue Hood, Alloys
- 93K 80 2.0 E SALOON, [illegible] Blue, 20,000 miles, Sunroof, Central Locking
- 93K 100 2.0E ESTATE, Titan Grey, 5 speed, 34,000 miles, Roof Rails, Sunroof
- 93K 2.3 CABRIOLET, Indigo Blue, 38,000 Miles, Alloys, FSH
- 92J 80 2.0E 16v SALOON, Ruby Red, 47,000 miles, Sunroof, FSH

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- 95N A6 2.6 SE AUTO ESTATE, Aluminium, Climate Control, Remote Locking
- 95N A4 1.6 SALOON, Laser Red, On Board Computer, Centre Armrest, ABS
- 96N A4 2.8 SALOON, Aqua, Electric Sunroof/Windows, Alloys, ABS, Airbag
- 95N 2.6E CABRIOLET, Ruby Red, 14,000 miles, Half Leather, 5 spoke Alloys, ABS, PAS
- 94M 80 2.6E SPORT, Green, 27,000 miles, Electric Sunroof & Windows, Alloys, Spoiler
- 92J 80 2.3SE, Green, 73,000 miles, Sunroof, Electric Windows, Alloys, ABS, PAS
- 95N A4 2.6 AUTO, Met Black, 6,000 miles, S/Roof, Remote Alarm, PAS, Alloys, A/Bag, ABS, E/Win
- 95M AUDI 80 2.6E, Amazon Green, Quattro, E/Roof, E/Windows, Alloys, Alarm, Airbag, PAS, ABS
- 95N A4 1.8 SE, Laser Red, 11,000 miles, Climate Control, Alloys, ABS, PAS
- 94L 80 TDI ESTATE, Forest Green, 30,000 miles, Electric Windows & Sunroof, ABS
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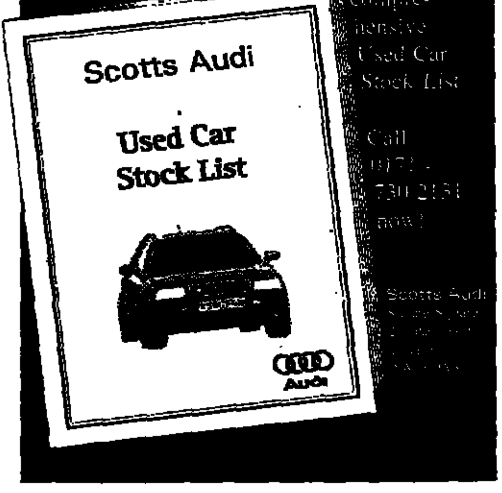

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95N 80 2.0 Estate Lazer red, Full Audi S/History 15000mls	£16,495
95N 80 2.6 Estate Ruby metallic, Full Audi S/History 10 Stack CD 13000mls	£17,495
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325i Conv
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96N	728i Auto canyon red, servotronic system, alloys, etc	£38,195
96N	525 TDS SE calypso red	£22,750
95N	525i Auto Sport arctic silver, air conditioning	£26,500
94L	525i Sport laser blue, htd seats, trip computer, M Tech Wheel	£19,995
94L	525i Sport bright red, htd seat, trip computer, M Tech Wheel	£19,995
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95N	318Ti Compact alaska blue, SE specification	£17,495
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96N 320i SE Boston Green, Sunroof, Alarm	£22,495
95N 318i S Coupe Boston, ESR, B/Kit, Alarm	£24,495
96N 318i SE Boston Green, Alloys, ESR, Alarm	£18,495
93L 318i S Coupe Alpine White, D/Airbag, 31K	£14,995
93L 318i S Coupe Diamond, ESR, RHR, 53K	£14,495
93L 318i Lagoon Green, ESR, Leather, 16K	£14,495
93K 318i Lagoon Green, ESR, F/Lights, 34K	£12,750
94L 316 Auto Coupe Bright Red, S/R, 17K	£14,995
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93L VW Golf 5Dr CL1.8 Silver, PAS, ESR, 8K	£8,995

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93K	M5 Manual Avus Blue, Silver Grey, Sscp, 26800mls	£32950
93L	525iSE Auto Arctic Silver, Anthracite 21000mls	£17495
93L	525iSE Auto Calypso, Anthracite 19000mls	£17495
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95M 530 Auto Arctic Grey/Light Grey Leather, 3k	£25,995
94L M3 Coupe Daytona Violet/ Grey Cloth Lthr, ESR, Alarm, Larger Alloys, 18k	£28,995
96N 328i A Coupe Boston Green, Anth Cloth, A/C, S/Roof, 11k	£26,495
93K 328i Auto Coupe Brilliant Red, Light Grey Leather, Sunroof, RHR, Front Armrest, 36k	£18,995
93L 325i Coupe Calypso/Grey, Air Con, 59k	£17,995
92K 325i Manual Coupe Granite Silver, Silver Cloth, Sunroof, On Board Computer, 47k	£18,995
96N 323i A Coupe Boston Green, Silver Cloth, A/C, Stereo, 4k	£24,995
95N 323 Coupe Dark Blue/Grey Cloth, ESR, 6k	£21,495
95M 320i Auto Conv Bright Red, Anthracite, F/Colour, FCAR, Spoke Alloys, 7k	£26,995
94L 318i Coupe Bright Red, Classic Red Cloth, Stereo, 38k	£13,495
94M 316i Arctic Silver/Anth, ESR, Alarm, 12,500 mls	£14,995
92J 318i Touring Manual Bright Red, Anthracite, Sunroof, 49k	£9,995
91H 318i Auto 4Dr Bright Red, Anth, ESR, Stereo, 41k	£9,995

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93L 730i AV8 Sterling Silver, Black Leather, Air Con	£23,995
96N 728i A Ascot Green, TV Monitor, E/ Sliding Roof	£36,995
96N 728i A Bright Red, Black Leather, CD	£37,995
92K M5 Motorsport, Sterling Silver, Full Leather, Air Con	£29,995
95N 525i A SET Arctic Silver, Alarm, CD Player, Ex-Demo	£27,995
95N 525i X SET Ascot Green, Air Con, 4WD	£29,995
95N 525 tds SET Ascot Green, BMW Alarm, Ex-Demo	£26,995
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95N 328i Touring Boston Green, Double Spokes, Full Colour	£25,995
96N 328i A Coupe Sport Boston Green, Leather	£30,995
95N 328i S Coupe Jet Black, Air Con	£29,995
95N 328i/2A Arctic Silver, Electric Sunroof, 1 Owner	£24,495
95N 323i Coupe Montreal Blue, Leather, Sports Seats	£24,495
96N 320i Convertible Boston Green, Elec Hood	£29,345
94L 320i Conv Alpine White, Sport Seats, Black Hood	£24,995
94M 320i/4 Boston Green, Passenger Airbag, Sunroof	£17,495
95N 320i Touring Bright Red, Elec Sunroof	£20,995
96N 318i S Coupe Montreal Blue, Double Spokes, Air Con	POA
95M 318i/4 SE Boston Green, X-Spoke Alloys, Alarm	£17,495
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Our quest for lost names has unearthed rare gems, writes **Tony Dawe**

Found: cars sent from Coventry

Emms, Iden, Marseal and Stoneleigh are car names which hardly trip off the enthusiast's tongue. Yet they were among the 132 carmakers in Coventry identified by historians researching the hundred years of the industry — and examples of them are being sought by organisers of the centenary celebrations.

Their search has been hampered, however, by the over-optimism of those inventors, engineers and entrepreneurs who in the early part of the century set up carmaking companies more out of hope than expectation.

Some got no further than making bicycles or assembling a few car parts, others only made components and one or two just sold cars.

Four months ago, the organisers enlisted the support of *Car 96* and, with the help of readers, have found some of the missing cars and solved many of the mysteries.

Today we launch a final appeal for examples of the cars which we now know were made in Coventry but have been unable to find. "We are hoping for examples of as many of the makes and models of Coventry cars as possible to take part in a cavalcade of famous and historic vehicles in the city on August 30," says John Horton, one of the organisers.

We now know that Edward Emms did produce 9.8hp light cars — but only a handful — before going bust; that George Iden was reported driving one of his specials on a hillclimb and that the colourful Count Marendaz was the inspiration behind Marseal.

We have found a couple of Stoneleighs, and learnt that models of the Duryea and Velox were definitely made and not just advertised. But where are the rest of the cars?

Many of the details have come from friends and relatives of the early pioneers.

A 1900 Duryea has now been spotted — but it was a model built in America

Richard Adams wrote from Stowupland, Suffolk, with information he had gathered from his great-aunt, the widow of Edward Emms, who set up the Emms Motor Company in Walsgrave Road, Coventry, in 1922.

He designed a light car with a four-cylinder watercooled engine and advertised it as, "Built up to a Standard not down to a price". This philosophy failed in such a competitive marketplace and the company closed after a year. "Only a few cars were ever made and my great-aunt cannot remember who bought them," Adams wrote.

"After his company finished, Edward joined Morris Motors in the experimental department. He went on to design for other companies including Coventry Climax and Gulson Engineeering as he did not wish to risk his own capital further. Some of his tools live on, however, as I have inherited them and use them on my own motoring heritage, a Triumph 1500 Spitfire and Dolomite 1300."

Malcolm Dale, from Eastleigh, Hants, referred us to some classic books on motoring history which refer to George Iden. He was a former works manager of the Motor Manufacturing Company, which originally shared a factory with Daimler at the end of the 19th century, and set up his own Iden Motor Car company in 1902, producing 12, 18 and 25hp models until 1907 when the company folded.

Sheila Lewis wrote from Coventry to tell us about Count Marendaz, "an extrovert with a burning passion for cars and a great engineer". He formed Marseal Motors in 1919 to produce light cars for racing as well as for ordinary roads.

Ms Lewis recalls: "My father was an orphan and in his early teens came to live with his uncle and aunt in Coventry. Count Marendaz took pity on him and made him his errand boy.

"My father would tell me of his excitement about working for the Count and about riding aboard the cars as they were taken to Coventry station to be despatched by rail.

"The count would always tip him and he would walk home and get something to eat from the late-night pie shops." The count later moved to London and then Maidenhead where he produced the Marendaz Specials.

While the search continues for examples of any of these makes, two of the first three cars we featured in March have been found: the Lea Francis Hyper which won the Ulster TT in 1928 — and nine examples of Cluley cars.

Clues have also been uncovered in the hunt for the third car, a Hillman Straight 8 Segrave, made in the 1920s by the leading manufacturers of the day and named after Sir Henry Segrave, a motor racing hero and holder of land speed records.

Various sightings of the classic model have been reported in postwar years and a further clue has come from Rex Hinchcliffe of Battle, Sussex. "One was owned in the 1920s and 30s by Phillip Grundy, a dentist in Leyland, Lancashire," he writes. "I learnt of this in the 1950s from my uncle who lived in the area and recalled that Mr Grundy would 'drive a party to Blackpool for the evening in the Straight 8 Hillman'.

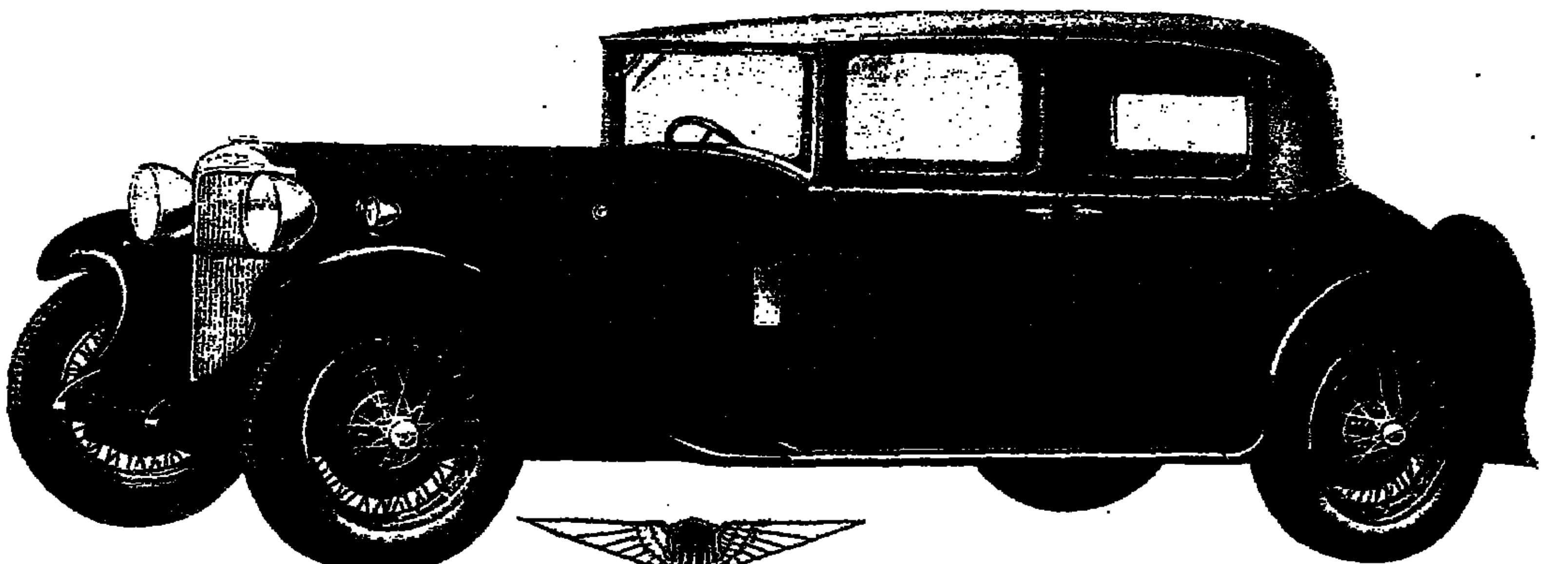
"Mr Grundy was in the news after his death in the 1960s when it was disclosed that he had left everything to his secretary. I wonder if she got the car and whether it's still in existence."

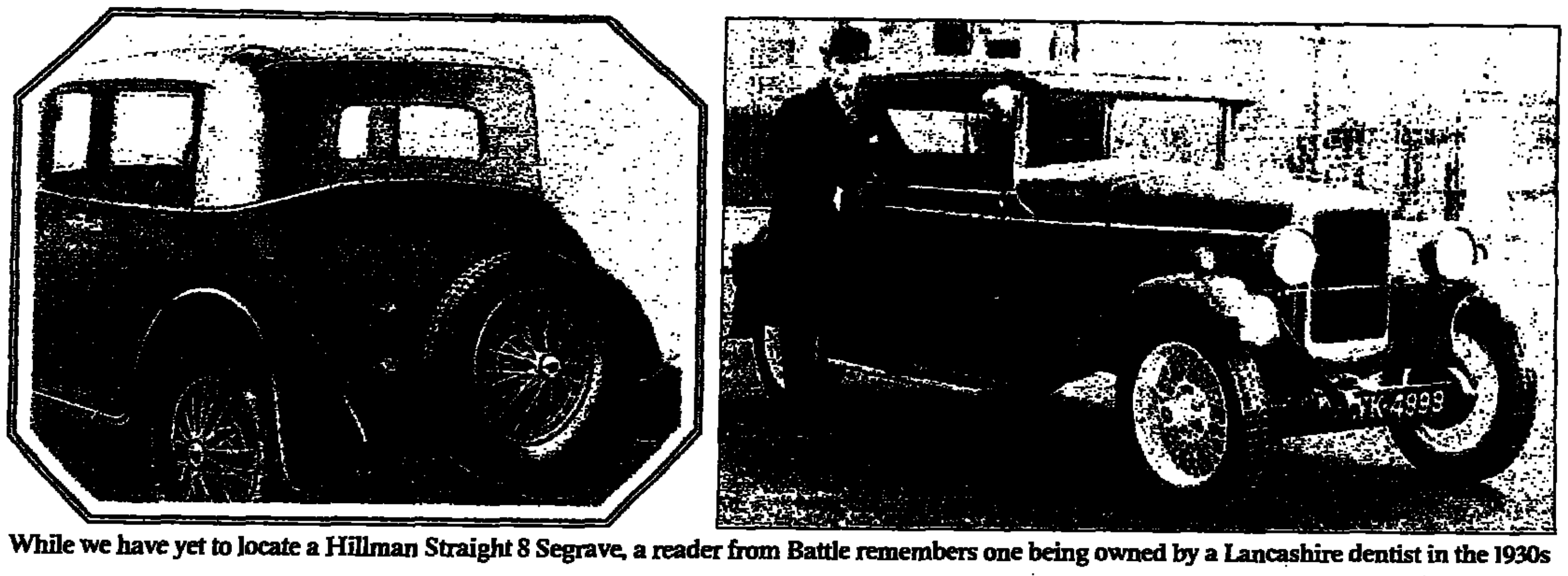
More definite news has been gathered about the Stoneleigh cars, made from 1912 to 1924 at the Parkside works, Coventry, which became home to Armstrong Siddeley. One is being restored at the Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust at Mickleover, Derbyshire, and another has been listed in an auction catalogue.

Thanks to David Locket of Woldingham, Surrey, we are also on the trail of a Velox. He used to own the chassis of one many years ago and has spotted the same car listed in the handbook of the Veteran Car Club of Great Britain.

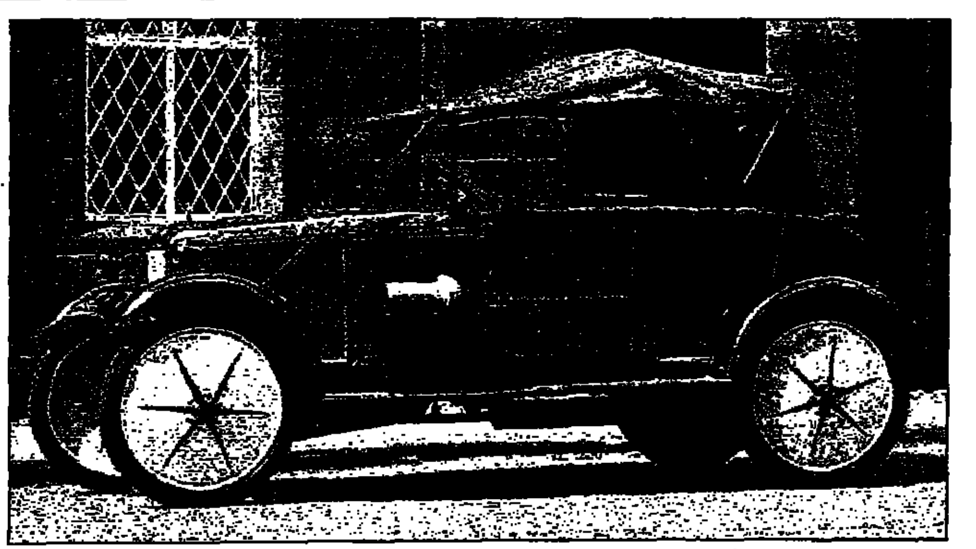
A Duryea has been spotted in another catalogue and one is known to exist in Britain, but it is dated 1900 and comes from America where Charles Duryea was a pioneering manufacturer at the end of the 19th century.

Three and four-wheeled cars were made under licence in Coventry from 1902 to 1906 and with their distinctive hoods would — like so many other of the missing cars — be a welcome addition to the city's historic cavalcade.





While we have yet to locate a Hillman Straight 8 Segrave, a reader from Battle remembers one being owned by a Lancashire dentist in the 1930s



Our appeal has uncovered a pair of Stoneleighs; one is being restored by Rolls-Royce

REAL, MISSING OR NEVER MADE?

MODELS from 52 of Coventry's reputed 132 makers have been found.

FOUND

Alvis, 1920-67.
Andy Rouse, 1983+.
Arden, 1912-16.
Armstrong Siddeley, 1919-60.
Autovia, 1937-38.
Bayliss, 1926-30.
Beeston, 1899.
BSA, 1910-31.
Buckingham (Chota), 1913-23.
Calcott, 1913-26.
Carbodies, 1943+.
Carlton, 1901-02.
Centaur, 1900-01.
Cluley, 1922-28.
Coventry Motette, 1896-1900.
Coventry-Premier, 1919-23.
Coventry-Victor, 1926-37.
Crouch, 1912-22.
Daimler, 1897+.
Duryea, 1902-06.
Deasy, 1906-11.
Endurance, 1899-1901.
Ferguson, 1950+.
Godiva, 1900-01.
Hillman, 1907-79.
Hotchkiss, 1920.
Humber, 1898-1968.
Jaguar, 1945+.
Lanchester, 1900-56.
Lea-Francis, 1904-54.
Maudsley, 1902-23.
MMC, 1898-1904
Morris, 1913-82.
Payne & Bates, 1900-01.
Premier, 1912-14.
Progress, 1898-1903.
Rex, 1901-14.
Riley, 1904-38.
Rover, 1904+.
Siddeley, 1902-04.
Siddeley-Deasy 1912-19.
Singer, 1902-56.
Standard, 1903-63.
Stonebow, 1901.
Stoneleigh, 1912-24.
Sturmey, 1909-12.
Swallow:SS, 1932-45.
Swift, 1900-31.
Talbot, 1979+.
Triumph, 1923+.
Velox, 1902-04.
Warwick, 1926-30.

NEVER MADE

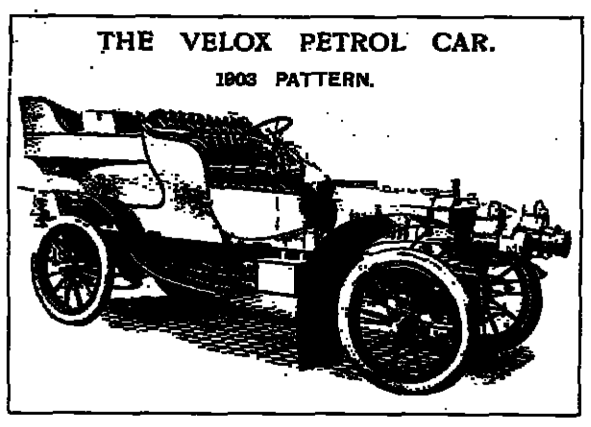
Acme, 1919.
Aircraft, 1926-30.
Alpha, 1903-14.
Aurora, 1903-04.
Awson, 1926-30.
B&A, 1937-38.
Barnett, 1926-30.
Billings, 1900.
Bramco, 1926-30.
British Motor Company, 1898.
British Motor Traction, 1906-10.
Challenge, 1919-25.
Condor, 1907.
Couder, 1923.
Crawford, 1901.
Cunard, 1906-10.
Daisy, 1926-30.
Dalton & Wade, 1906-10.
Davidson, 1926-30.
Doherty, 1906-10.
Dutson-Ward, 1906-10.
Eagle, 1912-13.
Forge, 1903-05.
Gravenor, 1906-10.
Great Horseless Carriage, 1896-98.
Hamilton, 1906-10.
Hill, 1926-30.
Hobart-Bird, 1906-10.
Hurley, 1906-10.
Lee Eabb, 1926.
Lee-Stroyer, 1904.
Manley & Buckingham, 1912-13.
Moore & Owen, 1906-10.
Motor Radiator, 1912.
Neville Sinclair, 1906-10.
Noble, 1919-25.
Norton, 1913.
Priory, 1901-05.
Record, 1905.
Remington, 1926-30.
Ryley, 1901-02.
Shamrock, 1900.
Supercar, 1935-40.
Vernon, 1906-10.
Whitley, 1906-10.

MISSING

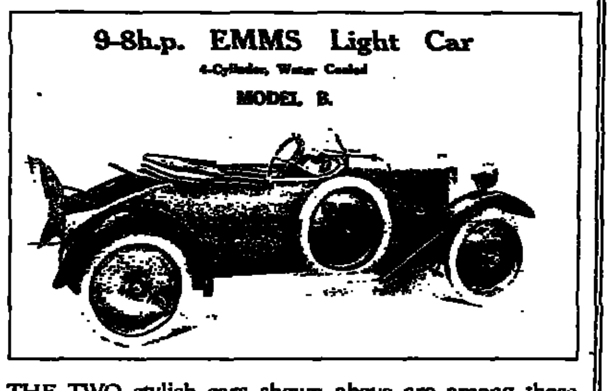
Academy, 1906-08.
Allard, 1899-1902.
Ariel, 1922-25.
Arno, 1908.
Auto-Forge, 1987.
Broadway, 1913.
Brooks, 1902.
Clarendon, 1902-03.
Clement, 1908-14.
Climax, 1905-07.
Cooper, 1919-23.
Coronet, 1904-06.
Dawson, 1920.
Emms, 1922-23.
Forman, 1904-06.
Garrard & Bloomfield, 1894-96.
Glover, 1912-13.
Hubbard, 1904-05.
Iden, 1904-07.
Lady, 1899.
Lotis, 1908-12.
Marseal, 1919-25.
New Beeston, 1898.
Omega, 1925-27.
Raglan, 1899.
Ranger, 1913-14.
Ridley, 1901-07.
Rudge, 1912-13.
Ryder, 1980
Taylor-Swetnam, 1913.
Titan, 1911.
Viking, 1914.
West-Aster, 1904-14.
Wigan-Barlow, 1922-23.
Williamson 1913-14.

Compiled with help from the British Museum of Road Transport, and Nick Georgano

ON THE WANTED LIST



THE VELOX PETROL CAR.
1903 PATTERN.



9-8h.p. EMMS Light Car
4-Cylinder, Water Cooled
MODEL B.

THE TWO stylish cars shown above are among those sought by Motor City's organisers to enhance the Coventry collection cavalcade which will form part of the city's celebrations of the motor industry's centenary.

THE VELOX company was one of many which took a lease at the city's Parkside works and began car production in 1902. The 1903 petrol car was one of several different models designed with 10 and 20hp engines, but only 21 cars were built before the company was wound up in 1904.

THE EMMS deluxe Coupé was made in 1922 by a short-lived company formed by Edward Emms, a talented designer. It came complete with a range of extras, such as a speedometer and clock, at a cost of £350.

BROKEN DREAMS

Fantasy life of old Ryley and similar dreams

A machine for "two of the sociable type", it runs with "great freedom and little vibration; the high speed is quite as fast as desirable and all ordinary hills can be taken without changing gear".

The test published in *Autocar* in September 1901 made the Ryley Voiturette sound like the ideal motor for a young couple and would have done Morgan proud, but like so many cars designed in Coventry at the turn of the century, it was just a dream.

Only two prototypes were produced and the company formed to put it into full production collapsed within a year. The search for a Ryley (with two 'y's instead of the familiar one) as part of the hunt for surviving models of Coventry-made marques came to an end with a letter from John Ryley, grandson of the pioneer.

"I can be positively negative about one of the Coventry cars: no Ryley Voiturette can exist now," he wrote from Lymington, Hampshire. "At the beginning of 1902, Ryley Ward and Bradford, the company formed to make the car, was bust. John Albert Ryley, my grandfather, was not short of original ideas and one of them was to sell his car in kit form. This project had begun and a collection of essential special parts were made.

"These parts were not saleable at liquidation so he went on keeping them in the attic of his Birmingham warehouse for sentimental reasons. It is likely that the Voiturette was among the bits because these cars were very flimsy and did not need anything as large as a stable or barn to store. I think my father disposed of the 'junk' in 1923."

Another sad letter came from Mark Bean of Olveston, Gloucestershire, whose wife's grandfather, Edmund Mayo, founded the Coventry Eagle company. It, too, was identified by historians as "a firm with some aspirations to car manufacture" but according to Bean it never got beyond making bicycles.

The Bramco company also puzzled the historians. They discovered its car advertisements but noted that its address was in a respectable residential area without any industrial premises. This mystery was solved by Eugene Nicholson, a museum curator of Bradford, who uncovered a series of sales documents showing that American and Coventry-made cars had been distributed by Bramco, proving that the company was a car retailer not a manufacturer.

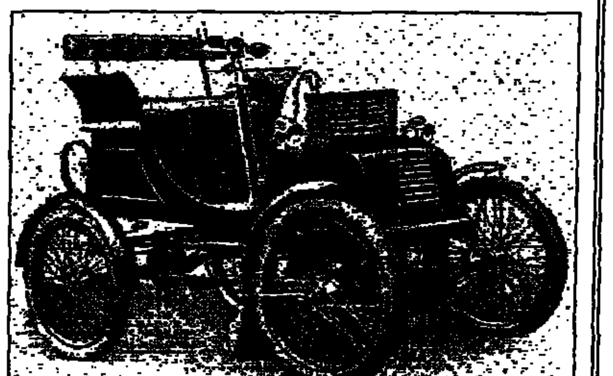
My father threw the Voiturette away as attic junk

Other names have also been removed from the list of potential carmakers after research by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, owner of the National Motor Museum, and Nick Georgano, author of the *Complete Encyclopaedia of Motorcars*.

They discovered, for example, that Hobart-Bird diversified from making motorcycles into producing three-wheeled commercial vehicles but never cars.

Lee-Stroyer, set up by Pelham Lee, a former Daimler engineer and a Danish partner, did produce a car to demonstrate the efficiency of the company's petrol engine but did not pursue the venture.

Between them, Lord Montagu and Georgano have cast doubts on whether 45 companies listed as potential carmakers ever produced one. "We do not like to be killjoys," Lord Montagu says, "but it must help the organisers to know which models they have a realistic chance of finding."



The Ryley builder's grandson revealed its sad fate

PARADE OF THE RESURRECTED

THE CAVALCADE of Coventry-built cars will be just one of the spectacular events taking place in three days of celebrations, from August 30 to September 1, to mark the centenary of the British motor industry, *writes Tony Dawe.*

The parade, entitled the Coventry Collection, will pass some of the factories old and new which have made cars from the Progress Quadricycle to the eagerly awaited Jaguar XK8.

"We have invited all the groups and individual owners of Coventry-built cars to come to the city on August 30 to join the cavalcade," says John Horton, consultant to the city council.

When they are not on the move, the cars will be parked amid marquees and a funfair at Coombe Abbey just outside the city. They will be joined there on Saturday, August 31, by more historic cars from other parts of the United Kingdom which will form the "British collection".

A faster-paced event on Saturday will be the Motor City Challenge, a rally around 80 miles of road and track, including the Motor Industry Research Association's test site near Hinckley.

The rally has been designed to test both the driving and navigational skills of ordinary motorists and is open to anyone — provided they contribute at least £40 to the Motor Industry Benevolent Fund. Organisers have set a target of 250 cars and there will be special categories for all-female teams, new drivers, old drivers and classic cars with commemorative prizes in each group. (More details about the rally will appear in *Car 96* next week.)

MOTOR CITY
COVENTRY

Sunday will feature the Midlands' rival to the annual London to Brighton veteran car run: a 65-mile rally through Shakespeare country for 450 historic vehicles, from late-19th-century cars to more modern Triumph and Jaguar sports cars.

The entrants will assemble at Coombe Abbey park before parading through the city centre and heading on a route through Kenilworth, Henley-in-Arden, Stratford-upon-Avon, and Warwick.

The four events will be supported by a lively entertainment programme in the city centre including the opportunity for motor racing enthusiasts of all ages to try the EuroSport remote-controlled grand prix circuit with 1/12th sized Formula One cars, to play on SEGA rally machines and a Scalextric replica of the Silverstone circuit.

Russ Swift, the stuntman made famous by his television commercials will be performing in a car park, while the Odeon cinema will be running a car-themed film festival with such classics as *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and *Bullit*.

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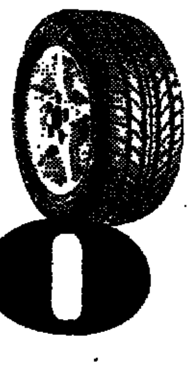

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93K Sovereign 4.0 Auto, Oyster Metallic/Doeskin Leather, Sunroof, Air Conditioning, 1 Owner, FSH, 35,000 miles £20,995
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Isobel Shepherd-Smith thought getting a UK licence would be easy after driving across Africa

The last straw was the written test

Having driven a four-wheel-drive Toyota Land-Cruiser across Africa and half of Europe, the thought of taking my driving test again in Britain seemed a mere formality. How could traffic in London compare to Lagos at rush-hour?

So, armed with supreme confidence and years of driving an assortment of vehicles behind me, I phoned a local driving school and booked a special offer of five lessons and a test for £83.50.

I saw most of Hackney and London N1 and learnt all about my instructor's private life, including his extraordinary smoking habits. I soon became an amazingly fastidious driver, or so I thought.

The day of my test loomed. I was surprisingly nervous. My middle-aged male examiner and I set off after I correctly read out a number plate several yards away. I was very pleased it was a man because I heard the one and only woman at the centre was a real Tatar. The test took about 45 minutes, but as is usual in these situations it seemed an eternity.

The examiner was most solicitous. "I'm afraid you've failed Miss Shepherd-Smith," he said, "but it was a very nicely managed test." I couldn't believe it. (Poor observation once, which I vehemently denied. Years of being a journalist I thought had taught me to observe without being caught at it. I also stopped too suddenly at a pedestrian crossing.)

All but one of the eight or so applicants tested with me failed, I learnt later. Another special offer (plus a few more lessons setting me back by £114) later and a second test (£21) loomed. This time I tried the afternoon shift. I thought I might have better luck.

My instructor had been behaving oddly, not turning up for lessons, or extending a single lesson to a double without telling me. So when the second test day arrived, the fears I had of him not turning up materialised. Fortunately I had made a contingency plan, but it did not augur well.

It started off well enough and continued until the end. "I'm afraid you've failed," said the middle-aged man, as polite and as neutral as the previous one. Failure to observe while reversing around a corner on a hill, which again I vehemently denied, and driving too slowly. I thought 25mph was quite fast enough in an unfamiliar suburban street with cars parked on either side, plus the hazard of a slight drizzle. I later found out that the test centre had more impostors last year than any other in the South East. Again most of the applicants that morning failed.

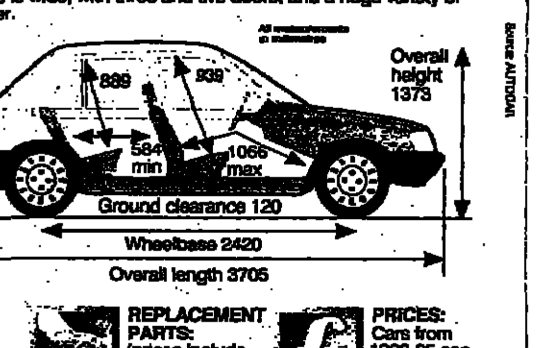
Why put myself through this if I have a licence already, you may well ask. The National Party Goverment in South Africa tried to rid itself of its notorious "pass-law" image by issuing everybody with an identity document called a Book of Life. Instead of one's race being spelt out in words, it was signified by a number. I have never appreciated the nuances of Coloured, Other Coloured and Cape Coloured even in numerical form, so I and several of my friends did not apply. The downside of this minor rebellion was losing the chance to have my licence appended in said document, thus invalidating it. Then as happened frequently, the law changed, but by this time I had mislaid my licence in my move to Britain.

Two tests and more than £200 in fees decided me, and the thought of having to complete the new written examination clinched it. Not being one for ritual humiliation or paying a surrogate, I thought it would be far easier to apply for a duplicate licence in South Africa and then use an international licence. Now that the new South Africa is back in the Commonwealth it cannot be long before the talks about talks about reciprocity of driving licences ends fruitfully.

Not so simple. I cannot ask any member of my family nor a friend to do it, nor can I give them power of attorney. I have to do it in person. So in August, when I visit my family, I shall be heading for a test centre in KwaZulu/Natal which no longer exists, to apply for a duplicate licence. Welcome to the new South Africa, where the apparatchiks still prevail.

USED CAR BRIEF

PEUGEOT 205
The "best small car" argument keeps pubs and clubs babbling all night long, but the 205, along with the Mini, VW Beetle and VW Golf, is a main contender for the title. Launched as a five-door hatchback in 1983 in 1.0, 1.1, 1.4, and 1.6-litre petrol, plus 1.8-litre diesel. The first GTi, the 1.6, arrived in 1984 to a storm of appreciative welcome, and in 1989 came the 1.9-litre, 120mph GTi with alloy wheels and power steering. The front wheel drive 205 range is wide, with three and five doors, and a huge variety of engines on offer.



GOOD NEWS: The best news is probably the GTi, rated with the VW Golf GTI as one of the best ever "hot hatches". The GTi looks great, goes better, handles beautifully and, despite the punitive insurance premiums, the very quick 1.9-litre GTi is excellent fun and value.

BAD NEWS: In a car that has been made in such numbers and over so many years, care needs to be taken to avoid poor examples. Check for rust on older cars around window seals, deteriorating alloy wheels, clutch wear, worn rear shock absorbers and scored brake discs.

SAFETY: Despite its small size, the 205 does well in the Department of Transport safety ratings, scoring above average, and ahead of rival vehicles like the VW Polo, Rover Metro, Ford Fiesta and Nissan Micra.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (prices include VAT) Clutch assembly £150; full exhaust £140; catalyst £400; rear dampers £132 (a pair); front brakepads £41 (the set); alternator (exchange) £140; tyre £35-£55.

PRICES: Cars from 1983-85 can be picked up for around £1,000. Expect to pay £1,500 for a 1986 D-reg 205 Junior 1.0 three-door hatchback, £2,000 for a 1986 D-reg 1.6-litre, five-door hatchback, £3,000 for a 1990 H-reg 205 XR 1.1 three-door, £7,000 for a 1992 K-reg GTi 1.9 three-door, and £7,000 for a 1994 M-reg 1.8 diesel turbo.

LOOK FOR: Cars that have not been serviced regularly with the approved solution and make of anti-freeze can suffer corrosion damage to the engine which is expensive to put right. Blue smoke from the exhaust indicates engine wear and knocking noises are a sign of camshaft wear on high-mileage cars.

AVOID: Early models, which have their gearbox located in the sump, can be difficult and costly to repair, and some quirky design traits can make the car tricky to work on for DIYers.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1992 Peugeot 205 1.9-litre GTi costs a 55-year-old professional male, living in Winchester with full no claims bonus, £312 a year fully comprehensive. A similar female pays £297. A 22-year-old male, with one year no claims living in south London pays £1,895, and a similar female pays £1,788.

OVERALL: Ahead of its time when launched, the years have been kind to the 205. A highly competent and advanced car, the three door especially still looks good. While early, smaller engined cars are best avoided, the 1.6-litre offers sound motoring, and the GTi gives excitement. Beware GTis that once belonged to would-be Schumachers.

M-REG CARS: £10,000 - £15,000

MODEL	PRICE Jun-96	 Jul-96	Chge
Rover 820Si saloon	11295	11095	-1.77
Nissan Maxima 3.0V6	10450	10350	-0.96
Honda Accord 2.0iLS saloon	11550	11450	-0.87
Mazda 626 2.0 estate	10750	10750	0.00
Volvo 480 2.0ES coupe	10650	10395	-2.39
Vauxhall Cavalier 2.0SRi 16v 5-dr	10695	10495	-1.87
Ford Mondeo 2.0Si saloon	9675	9550	-1.29
Renault Clio 16v 3-dr	10495	10395	-0.95
Citroën Xantia 2.0iSX 5-dr	9895	9825	-0.71
Jeep Wrangler 4.0 2-dr	12350	12350	0.00
Subaru Legacy 2.0GL estate	11750	11750	0.00
Saab 900 2.0iS 5-dr	13095	12995	-0.76
Renault Espace 2.0RN	13350	13350	0.00
Peugeot 405GLXD estate	10195	10095	-0.98
Nissan 200SX	12995	12895	-0.77
Toyota Carina E Executive	11495	11450	-0.39
Suzuki Vitara JLX SE 3-dr	9795	9750	-0.46
Mitsubishi Galant V6 24v saloon	10995	10850	-1.32
Hyundai Sonata 2.0CDi auto	10250	9875	-3.66
Ford Granada 2.0 Ghia auto saloon	11495	11350	-1.26
Audi 80 1.6 saloon	10695	10450	-2.29
Volvo 940 Wentworth saloon	14295	14195	-0.70
Vauxhall Cavalier V6 Diplomat 5-dr	12450	12395	-0.44
Rover 620Si saloon	10395	10295	-0.96
Renault Safrane 2.0RN 5-dr	11195	11095	-0.89
Peugeot 605 SLi saloon	10950	10850	-0.91
Nissan Serena 2.0SLX 7-seater	12295	12295	0.00
Audi 80 2.0E saloon	12550	12350	-1.59
Citroën ZX 2.0 16v coupe	9350	9350	0.00
Daihatsu Sportrak ELXi 3-dr	10595	10395	-1.89
Ford Escort RS2000	10950	10850	-0.91
Honda Civic VTi coupe	11195	11150	-0.40
Peugeot 306XSi 5-dr	10395	10195	-1.92
Toyota Corolla 1.6 Executive	9950	9950	0.00
Vauxhall Astra 2.0i convertible	10295	10195	-0.97
Volkswagen Passat 2.0GL saloon	10295	10250	-0.44
Mazda 323 1.8GT Fastback	10895	10895	0.00
Renault 19 16v coupe	10595	10550	-0.43
Subaru Impreza 1.8GL estate	10295	10150	-1.41
Vauxhall Calibra 16v	13350	13295	-0.41
Vauxhall Omega 2.0CD auto saloon	12850	12650	-1.56
Citroën XM 2.0i VSX turbo estate	12695	12695	0.00
Daihatsu Fourtrak TDL Independent 3-dr	13150	12995	-1.18
Ford Escort Si Cabriolet	11450	11295	-1.35
Honda Accord 2.0iLS coupe	12195	12095	-0.82
Audi 100 2.0E saloon	13095	12995	-0.76
Mazda Xedos 6 1.6i saloon	11995	11895	-0.83
Mitsubishi Galant 4wd/4ws	12995	12895	-0.77
Rover 216 Cabriolet	11895	11750	-1.29
BMW 316i saloon	12895	12695	-1.55

Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices HB = hatchback S = saloon Price changes based on M-reg. low mileage cars Figures supplied by ***CAP Motor Research.***

CANDIDATES for the new driving theory test which came into force on July 1 are to be allowed to use translators if the language they speak is not one of those for which the Driving Standards Agency provides an alternative paper. But they will have to pay the translator's costs as well as the £15 test fee.

The DSA makes the test available in Punjabi, Urdu, Bengali, Hindi, Gujarati and Chinese as well as in English and Welsh. Candidates who cannot complete a paper in any of those languages will have to satisfy the DSA that their translator will not answer the questions for them.

"In general we will expect candidates who need a translator to provide one from a recognised professional institute of translators. Where a language is so unusual that this is impossible we will be open to representations from candidates asking for non-professional translators to be used," says Gordon Court, manager of the DSA's Theory Test Unit.

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190E
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01249 782676

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95M C200 Elegance Auto Nautic, esr, ctg, music 11T £20,995
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93L C220 Elegance Auto Pearl blue, black cloth, cd 40T £21,995
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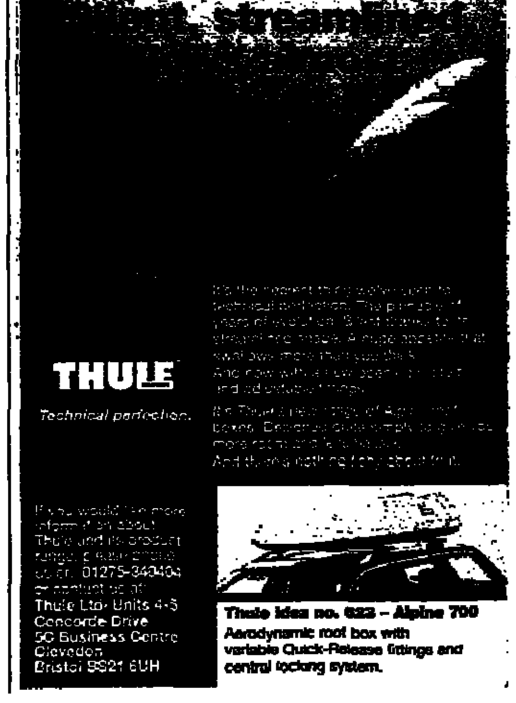

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The banks where wild times grew

Silverstone? Brooklands is racing's first home, says **Lord Montagu of Beaulieu**

Little remains of Brooklands: a few fragments of banking are visible from the Waterloo to Southampton railway, but the area is increasingly given over to industry. Few realise that this uninspiring spot was for 32 years the motor racing enthusiasts' mecca.

In the early years of the century racing on main roads was strictly forbidden. When a British victory in the 1902 Gordon Bennett Race obliged us to host the next year's event, it had to be held in Ireland. The idea for Brooklands occurred to the wealthy landowner and motoring enthusiast, Hugh Fortescue Locke King, while he was watching Italy's premier event, the Targa Florio in Sicily in 1906. Italian cars and drivers finished first and second, and a Frenchman third. Why were there no British cars in the race at all, he wondered? If the Continent had open roads for racing, he determined that Britain should have a purpose-built track.

For the site, Locke King chose part of his Surrey estate, south of his home at Weybridge. It was unpromising marshy land with a few smallholdings devoted to poultry.

Brooklands (named after Locke King's house) was a most ambitious project. The concrete track was 100 feet wide, roughly oval and 2.75 miles in circumference. At the north east end there was a steep banking which rose nearly 29 feet above ground level. This came to be known as the Members' Banking, while at the other end was the lower Byfleet Banking. Even this, at 21 feet 10in, loomed over the roofs of a row of cottages beneath it. The 200ft-long Hennebique Bridge over the River Wey was reputedly Britain's first use of reinforced concrete.

The circuit was designed by Colonel Holden of the Royal Engineers. He planned the angle of the banking so that even at the top a stationary car would not topple over. At any speed from 30 to 100mph there was a natural line at which no steering would be required. Holden estimated that the track would be safe at up to 120mph, but the final lap record, set in 1935 by John Cobb, was 143.44mph. (Jacques Villeneuve's fastest lap at Silverstone last weekend was 127mph.)

The Brooklands Automobile Racing Club was formed in December 1906. Lord Lonsdale was president and my father vice-president; committee members included Prince Francis of Teck (brother of the Princess of Wales, who became Queen Mary in 1910), the Dukes of Beaufort and Westminster, and Lords Churchill, Dudley, Essex, Northcliffe, Sefton and Tollemache. Considered an extension of horse racing, motor racing attracted a blue-blooded governing body.

> 'Numbers on the cars were thought vulgar'

The official opening was on June 17, 1907, when speeches were made at a luncheon in the pavilion and cars paraded on the track. Some drivers could not resist the temptation of taking their cars to the limit. The fastest was Warwick Wright's 80hp Darracq which roared around near the top of the banking, reaching speeds estimated by *The Autocar* at between 80 and 90mph.

The motoring press enthused about the new track, but not everyone was impressed, however. The diarist Lady Mary Monkswell wrote in July, "Mr and Mrs Locke King came to dinner. They have been building this awful motor track and are so hated by their neighbours . . . that hardly anyone will speak to them." When she visited it, she reported: "The motor track is a perfect nightmare. A more unenjoyable place to come on a hot Sunday afternoon I cannot imagine." She did concede, however: "The enormous size of the arena, almost like a great Roman work, and the controlled strength of the motors, prevents this great horrid place from being vulgar."

Even before racing began, the track saw the first British 24-hour record attempt. S. F. Edge drove a 60hp Napier accompanied by two similar cars on June 28-29. Finding his headlamps next to useless he sent out for 352 red lanterns from every roadmaking firm in London. These were placed around the track every ten yards. At the end of the 24 hours he had covered 1,581 miles at an average speed of 65.95 mph: a world record that remained unbeaten for 18 years.

The first race meeting on July 6 was a bit of an anticlimax. The cars seemed dwarfed by the expanse of concrete, and although speeds of 90mph were reached, from a distance they seemed very slow. Identification was difficult as in horse-racing tradition the drivers wore jockey's smocks. Numbers were considered vulgar.

Complaints of inadequate catering and delays in getting in and out of the track did not add to the day's success, though the crowd of more than 13,000, each paying half a crown, was encouraging. There were six races, and prize money was very high. The main event carried a prize of £1,400, equivalent to at least £30,000 today.

Three more meetings were held in 1907; at the insistence of the starter A. V. Ebblewhite, who remained in his post until the track closed in August 1939, the coloured smocks were replaced by numbers on the cars, and handicapping was introduced. Within a few years Brooklands was established as the most important motoring venue in Britain, and also attracted many visitors from Europe and America.

Brooklands reached its peak of popularity in the late 1920s, after which it began to be eclipsed by the growing number of road circuits in Europe. By 1939 the surface of the old track was becoming increasingly bumpy. It had been a centre of flying almost from the outset, and during World War II a total of 2,515 Wellington bombers were built at the Vickers factory. Part of the banking was demolished to allow the Wellingtons out, and the track was sold to Vickers in 1946.

Among those who agreed to the sale was Sir Malcolm Campbell who had competed so often there. Happily the track is still used for reunions; although no racing can take place, it has been greatly cleaned up in recent years, thanks to the work of the Brooklands Society. Thirty acres of original buildings form the Brooklands Museum, which was opened by Prince Michael of Kent in 1991.

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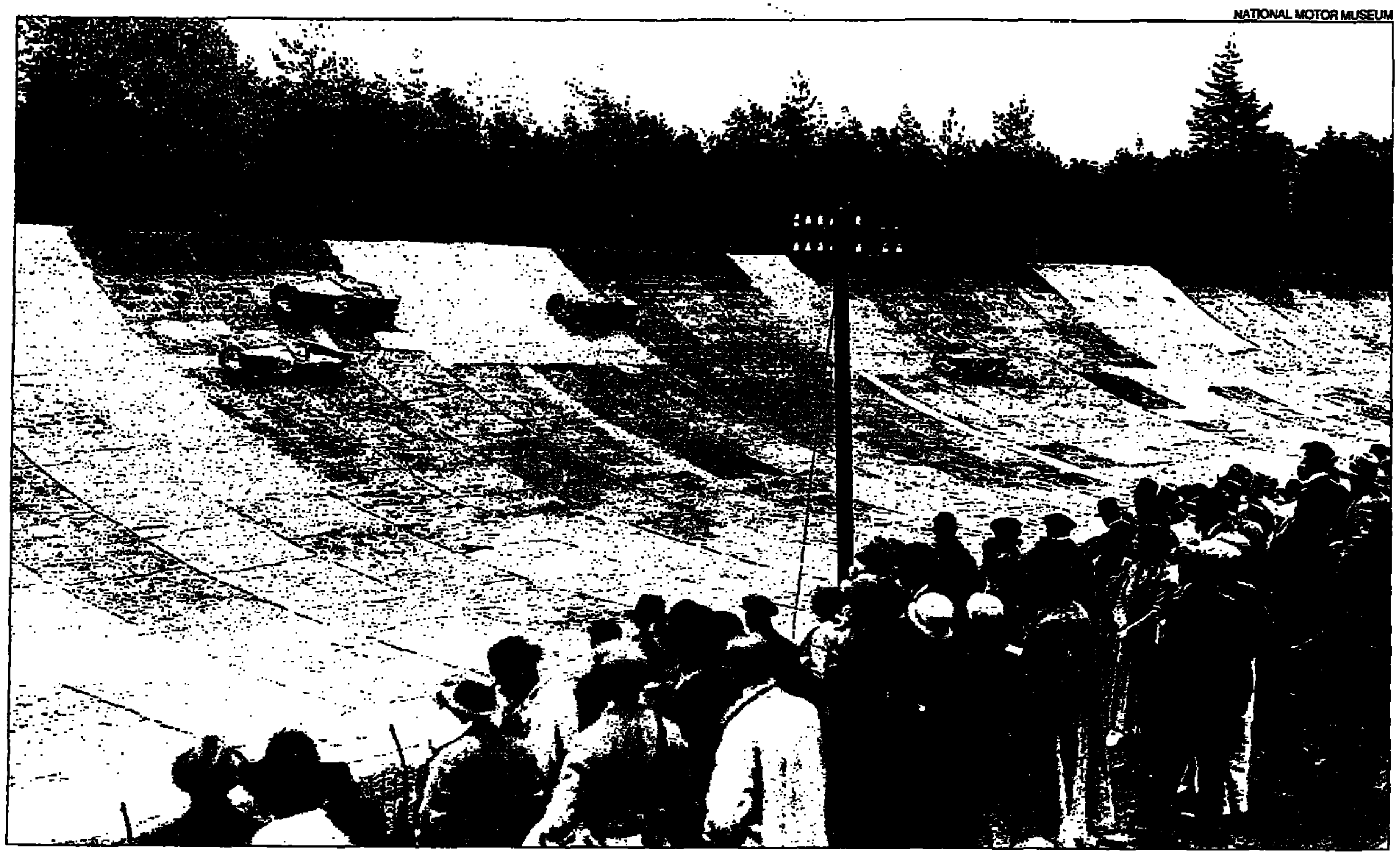
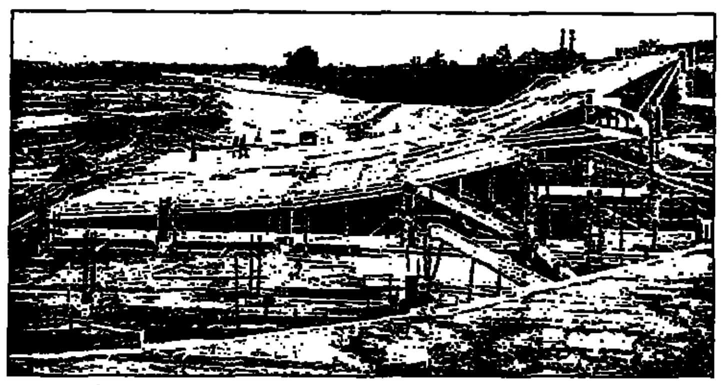


The banking was built to enable drivers to corner at 100mph without moving the steering. The circuit was thought safe up to 120mph but this was greatly exceeded



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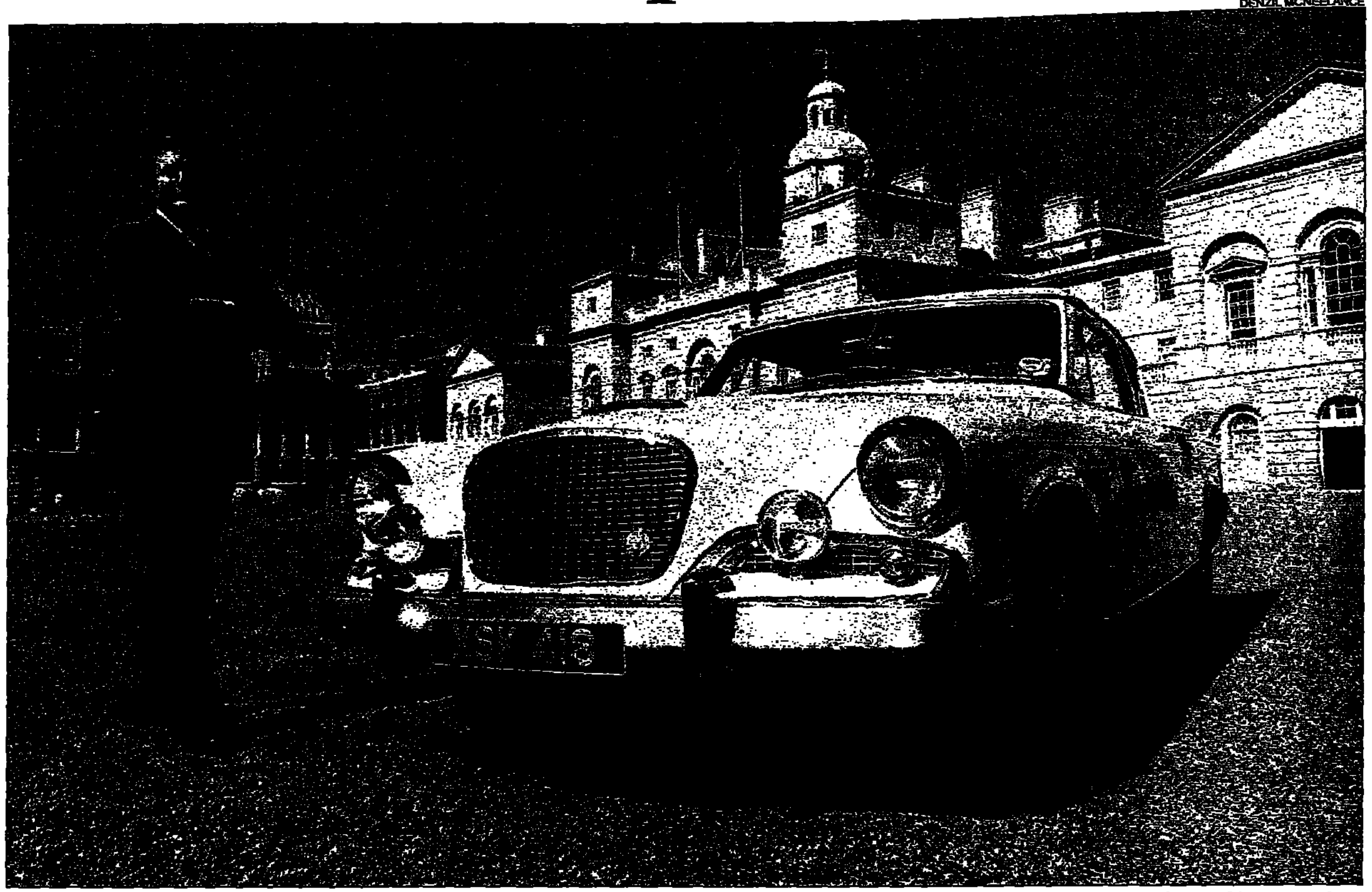
Greg Knight's political power finds its match in his classic-crowded garage, says **Perry Cleveland-Peck**

Chief Whip who doesn't spare the horses



DENZIL MCNEELANCE

Knight with his 1961 Studebaker Hawk: he first had one at the age of nine, but it was a Dinky toy. He bought the full-sized car after seeing it featured in a magazine

If a man's car reflects his style *and character then* Greg Knight, Government Deputy Chief Whip, *has the perfect set* of wheels. He describes his favourite classic car, a 1949 Buick Roadmaster, as "just a little bit frightening".

Knight, one of the most powerful and feared men in the Conservative party, explains: "With its huge carnivorous grille it is a beast that generates *a sinister, slightly menacing* presence. In fact on the few *occasions it is seen in public,* little boys have been known to run off at *their first sight of it."*

I bet they have, for with an uncompromising and not insubstantial body and a powerful 5.25-litre straight-eight engine, the machine, along with its driver, is enough to put the fear of God into any would-be *motorist* as they travel the highways and byways of *Westminster. With its* distinctive four-hole ventilation ports and "a hell of a lot of chrome", *the Buick, all 18 feet of it,* is a striking vehicle that would intimidate the traffic on any boulevard or thoroughfare.

"*When I first bought* the car," says Knight, "I *thought it was just me* who found it frightening but since then I have learnt that others feel the same way too. Considering current events at Westminster maybe I should drive it to the House a little more often. Perhaps all the *whips should get* one each."

'Little boys have run off at first sight of the Buick'

There are two passions in Knight's life: politics and classic cars. He developed both when he was a young boy. "I have had an interest in cars *since* I was *seven,"* *he says.* "The first car I owned was a 1957 Studebaker Hawk, which I *got in 1958. I was nine years old* and the car was four inches long — it *was a Dinky* toy. *I now own the real* thing."

"I first saw my Studebaker in a magazine called *Classic American,"* says Knight. It was the first time I had seen one since I owned the Dinky. I called the editor and tracked the car *down to its* Midlands owner. I paid £9,000 for it and have since been offered double. It was originally from South Africa and so it has ample air conditioning. Trouble *is there is no heater* so I can't drive it in winter."

The *1961 Studebaker Hawk* and the Buick are just two out of a collection of many. Knight, who *maintains that "you can't beat* litres", owns, in chronological *order: a 1956 Bentley S1, a 3½-litre* 1969 Rover P5B coupé (the smallest-engined car of his collection), a *1972* 6.3-litre Jensen Interceptor (which delivers an economical 12.5 mpg), a 1988 Chrysler Le Baron Convertible, a 1991 Chevrolet Caprice saloon (complete with tinted windows) and a new Chevrolet Camaro *sports. He has recently just moved* house in Derbyshire to a property *that has a workshop big enough to* house them all.

The motoring *love affair started* 15 years ago when Knight part-exchanged a Ford Granada for the Bentley S1. He maintains: "The Bentley is a wonderful car, she is very reliable and sometimes I can go six months without even starting her — she still fires at the first turn of the key." The Bentley was once *used to chauffeur his* friend, the singer *Frankie Valli, to a Four* Seasons concert in Brentwood during the band's 1994 UK tour. Knight, known among journalists as "Silent Knight" in recognition *of his renowned* eagerness to communicate *with the press, is no* stranger to the rock and *roll* business. A one-time owner of a recording studio and former drummer, he recorded the track *Maggie Will Always be Around* for the 1983 general *election campaign.*

"I just cannot sell my cars," he says, *"though these days I am* getting more selective at choosing new ones. What I will say about my collection is that they are all roadworthy and in regular use. They aren't just museum pieces or an investment, though they have all *increased in value. One thing I* can't stand is seeing people turn up *to a rally in a Land Rover with their* cars on a trailer behind them — after all they are not pieces of furniture."

Knight's dream car is a 1937 Cord 812 Beverley *Sedan* — the supercharged model. "Depending on *your viewpoint it is either the most* attractive or unattractive car ever built," he says. "I just love the Art Deco look about it. It has very distinctive wraparound grille bars *encompassing the fore-end of the* car from front door to front door — *the so-called coffin-nose effect. It* was the first motor car to be able to go over 100 mph, the first car with pop-up headlights *and the first car* with front-wheel drive. It was made in the States during the 1930s but with the arrival of Depression the company folded and now Cords are very rare motor cars indeed." Knight is so enthusiastic about this *car that he is reported to have said* that if he ever became Secretary of State for Transport the first thing he would do is buy a Cord and drive it to the office.

On *more* than one occasion Knight's passion for automobiles *has come into conflict* with his political career. Having been reported to Westminster's Serjeant at Arms *for keeping more than one* car (one of them untaxed) parked at the Palace of Westminster car park, Knight's recent involvement with the phantasmal and possibly non-existent House of Commons Classic Car Club found him in further *hot water. Letters singing Knight's* praises for "his untiring efforts" in helping to bring about the classic-car tax concessions in this year's budget were faxed off to various car magazines. But Paddy Tipping, the Labour MP who looked into the *matter, said he could find no record* of the club's existence, commenting: "Unlike the vehicles it is said to *represent, the club's vintage* and pedigree seem shrouded in mystery, I checked in the House of Commons library and it is clear to me that the group does not exist."

Tipping has reported the *club to the Commons* Administration Committee as bogus. Recent newspaper articles implying that Knight created the club and the press releases in order to bolster a flagging majority would, however, appear grossly *cynical.*

Unlike the Fifth Earl of Rosebery, whose three ambitions were "*to win the Derby, marry an* heiress and become Prime Minister", the MP for Derby North's plans for the future demonstrate that his dedication and loyalties lie with his car collection and the Tory leader: "If you were to ask me if I *wanted to* be *Prime Minister* I would have to say no — my ambition is to own the Cord. Besides, I think the present PM is doing a tremendous job anyway.

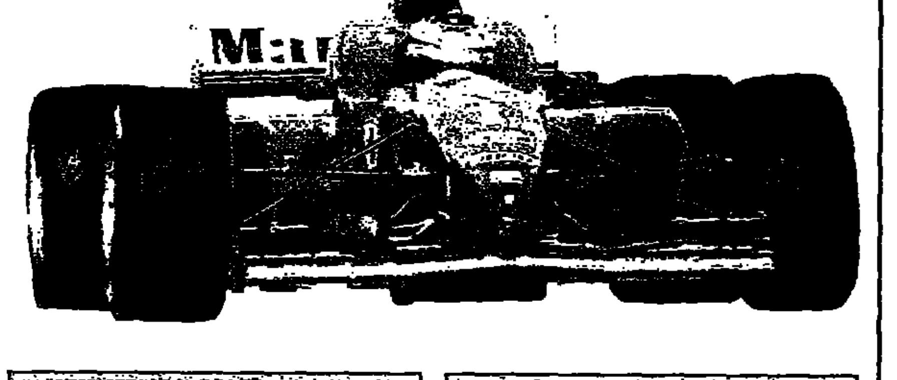
"The benefits of being a whip really come into their own with the *arrival of the House recess because,* as opposed to the responsibilities of a departmental portfolio, a whip *has less to do at this time," he says.* "This summer I will be polishing the cars and driving them along the leafy lanes of Derbyshire: recess is only four weeks away and I can already smell the engine oil."

So, if, while wandering down *such a green Derbyshire byway* this summer, you are confronted by a frightening and menacing apparition — reminiscent, perhaps, of Kenneth Grahame's "Toad the terror" — take cover, for it will more than likely be the Deputy *Chief Whip in his Buick* Roadmaster.

F1 Fantasy Drive update

Below we print the results of last week's British Grand Prix at Silverstone, plus *the cumulative points* in each category for the nine races in our fantasy game so far. Remember, the Australian Grand Prix does not count towards our point scoring system. Also today we print the latest *positions* at the top of our leaderboard in the race for our £10,000 *jackpot which shows the position,* number of points to date, team name, and the name of the fantasy team manager. The table shows a clear leader with 5,201 points.

Our ninth race winner for the performance of his team in the British Grand Prix is Mr E Coombs from Edinburgh, whose team, Durham Racers, scored 654 points. He wins a two-day trip for two to the Belgian Grand Prix in *August. He was selected as the outright* winner for his 654 point total.



TOTAL POINTS AFTER THE BRITISH GP

	Last race points	Total Fantasy points
Group A		
01 *M Schumacher*	21	611
02 J Alesi	60	796
03 D Hill	46	790
Group B		
04 G Berger	109	667
05 E Irvine	16	489
06 J Villeneuve	103	857
Group C		
07 D Coulthard	101	755
08 M Hakkinen	99	845
09 HH Frentzen	92	618
Group D		
10 M Brundle	94	633
11 *R Barrichello*	99	695
12 J Herbert	92	656
Group E		
13 *M Salo*	102	583
14 P Lamy	23	520
15 P Diniz	42	613
Group F		
16 U Katayama	21	290
17 J Verstappen	92	412
18 O Panis	45	650
Group G		
19 G Fisichella*	93	377
20 R Rosset	14	327
Group H		
21 L Badoer	0	365
22 A Montermini	0	167

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HOW YOUR DRIVERS SCORED POINTS AT SILVERSTONE

Qualifying points are scored by *qualifying for the start of each grand prix* within the first 20 positions on the grid: D Hill 20 points; J Villeneuve 19; M Schumacher 18; M Hakkinen 17; J Alesi 16; R Barrichello 15; G Berger 14; M Brundle 13; D Coulthard 12; E Irvine 11; H-H Frentzen 10; U Katayama 9; *J Herbert 8; M Salo 7;* J Verstappen 6; O Panis 5; P Diniz 4; G Fisichella 3; P Lamy 2; R Rosset 1.

Finishing points Finishing points are scored by the top 20 drivers at the end *of every grand prix: J Villeneuve 20* points; G Berger 19; M Hakkinen 18; R Barrichello 17; D Coulthard 16; M Brundle 15; M Salo 14; H-H Frentzen 13; J Herbert 12; J Verstappen 11; G Fisichella 10. (No other finishers)

Lap points one point for each lap *completed: J Villeneuve 61 points;* G Berger 61; M Hakkinen 61; R Barrichello 61; D Coulthard 61; M Brundle 60; M Salo 60; H-H Frentzen 60; J Herbert 60; J Verstappen 60; G Fisichella 59; J Alesi 44; O Panis 40; P Diniz 38; D Hill 26; P Lamy 21; R Rosset 13; U Katayama 12; E Irvine 5; M Schumacher 3.

Improved position points three points for each place improved from starting grid to finishing position: M Salo 21 points; G Fisichella 21; J Verstappen 15; G Berger 15; D Coulthard 12; J Herbert 12; H-H Frentzen 9; M Brundle 6; R Barrichello 6; *J Villeneuve 3;* M Hakkinen 3.

F1 FANTASY DRIVE LEADERBOARD AFTER NINE RACES

01	5,201	Clandeboye	I Laurenson
02	*5,196*	*County Pine F*	*J Hunt*
03	5,192	GMC	S Hardcastle
03	5,192	Gamy Gadgets	P Shepherd
03	5,192	Packards	A Packenham-Walsh
03	5,192	Trevor Tyres	E Nathan
03	5,192	Red Streak	R Hegarty
03	5,192	The Winning Team	C Plant
03	5,192	Pitstop	B Mayes
03	5,192	Kevin's Racers	C Hounslow
03	5,192	Keeta's Wonder	K Patel
03	5,192	Bev's Bashers Cars	N Bevins
03	5,192	The Gravel Trappers	A Huckle
03	5,192	Howey's Hotshots	A Howard
03	5,192	Xenon	H Whyte
03	5,192	Racing Jaws	J Giles
17	5,191	Micks Mix	M Bradford
19	5,186	*Myles Ahead*	*M Myles*

CHECK YOUR SCORE

Players can check the scores and positions of their teams by calling the hotline number *below (Republic of Ireland readers should* call 004 499 020 0501). Remember to have your 10-digit PIN number handy when you call. The line currently carries all positions after the British Grand Prix at Silverstone and will be updated again on Wednesday July 31 after the German Grand Prix.

CALL THE 24-HOUR CHECKLINE 0891-774 734

FANTASY UPDATE

Our team's losing, so we'll change it

Let's face it, the British *Grand Prix was a bit of* a *disappointment* for all of us. Even if there were a few unseemly jeers around the track when Michael Schumacher and Eddie Irvine retired so early, it has to be *said that a race without the* Ferraris is a colourless affair *and when Damon Hill spun* into the gravel that was the end of things for a lot of fans.

Jacques Villeneuve richly deserved his victory, but if you have an F1 Fantasy Drive team headed by Jean Alesi and Eddie Irvine *it looked* like a disaster. So after drifting further *and further off the pace in* our celebrity contest, Team *Car 96 has decided* to play *its* joker. We will take advantage of the rules which allow you to switch up to four drivers in an attempt to catch up with the likes of Jonathan Palmer (now *more* than 1,000 points ahead *of us). Louise Aitken-Walker* and Nick Mason.

With only six races to go, it would have been easy to plump for the *Hill/Villeneuve* combination. But an emergency meeting of the team managers Kevin Eason, *The Times* Motoring Editor, and Alan Copps, Editor of *Car 96*, in the Old Rose (Wapping's equivalent to the Maranello Trattoria) decided to remain faithful to the original *concept* of blind faith allied to cock-eyed optimism *and true patriotism.*

The latter allows us to adopt *Damon Hill in Group* A *in* place of Jean Alesi. Now Hill's *under pressure it's our* patriotic duty to back him. To take on *Villeneuve would have made* all the teams look the same, but we had to do something about Eddie Irvine because much as we love that Irish charm. Ferrari seems incapable of providing him with a finish. So welcome in, Gerhard Berger. Heinz-Harald Frentzen had to go since he's trailing badly in Group C while the McLaren drivers are both improving. To *go for Hakkinen would again* have smacked of imitation so with further patriotism we've adopted David Coulthard.

We stick with our choices of Martin Brundle in Group D, *and Pedro Diniz in Group E,* the rather unlikely star of our team. No one else dared choose the Brazilian driver but his 613 Fantasy points, plus one real championship point in the Ligier, make him a *useful entry.*

Jos Verstappen on the other *hand has failed to live up to* early promise and his Fantasy score trails, although he's also scored one real championship point. So in Group F we're going for another entry no other team dared choose Ukyo Katayama, Tyrrell's Japanese driver, partly on the *grounds that after his wretched* season so far, his luck just *has to* change soon and partly because he impressed Copps immensely by deliberately spinning his road car through 360 degrees twice during a recent interview.

Fisichella and Montermini *retain their places in the last* two groups. Next week we will *offer all the other celebrity* teams a chance to change their line-ups. The method is explained in the adjoining panel.

Scores: 1. Jonathan Palmer (Hill, Villeneuve, Hakkinen, Barrichello, Salo, Panis, Rosset, Badoer) 5,112 points; 2. Louise Aitken-Walker (Hill, Villeneuve, Coulthard, Herbert, Salo, Panis, Rosset, Badoer) 4,983; 3. Nick *Mason* (Schumacher, Villeneuve, *Hakkinen, Barrichello, Salo,* Panis, Rosset, Badoer) 4,933; 4. *Carol Vorderman (Hill, Villeneuve,* Hakkinen, Herbert, Salo, Verstappen, Fisichella, Badoer) 4,885; 5. Stirling Moss (Hill, Villeneuve, Hakkinen, Brundle, Salo, Panis, Rosset, Montermini) 4,852; 6. Sir David Steel (Hill, Villeneuve, Hakkinen, Barrichello, Salo, Verstappen, Rosset, Montermini) 4,676; 7. Tess Stimson (Alesi, Irvine, Coulthard, Herbert, Salo, Panis, Rosset, Badoer) 4,624; 8. Chris Rea (Alesi, Irvine, Hakkinen, Barrichello, Salo, Verstappen, Rosset, Badoer) 4,512; 9. *Lord March (Alesi,* Irvine, Hakkinen, Brundle, Salo, Verstappen, Fisichella, Montermini) 4,302; 10. *Car 96* 4,105.

DR DASHBOARD

Are MPs after political mileage?

Q **I was ready to man the barricades when I heard that MPs voted themselves a 26 per cent pay rise last week, but is it true they offset it by voting to reduce their mileage allowances?**

A It's true, but like a lot of things in politics, only up to a point. They voted to replace a graded system which began at 23p a mile for small cars and gave them a seemingly-*generous top rate of 74.1p* a mile for large cars with a flat *rate of 47.2p for all cars.*

Q **But surely the cost of motoring hasn't gone down. Were they just trying to salve their consciences?**

A We doctors usually fight *shy of political* diagnosis, but here it seems we were faced with a classic case of what the medical profession calls "a trade-off". Guilty consciences were helped along by the whips suggesting that a vote to cut allowances would make a vote for a big pay rise *more* acceptable.

Q ***I can see the point.* Anyway I thought MPs were supposed to set an example and drive small cars. Surely the graded rate would have encouraged them to buy Jaguars, BMWs and the like?**

A That was *one of the* arguments put forward *in favour of a fixed rate,* although some MPs argued *that they needed large,* comfortable cars because of the *amount of driving they do* to and from their constituencies.

Q **That's all very well but I don't have the chance to set my own mileage allowance and I think the one I've got is lousy. Is there anything I can do about it?**

A Well, these things are always open to negotiation with your employer. *But* remember the spectre of the *Inland Revenue is lurking* to demand its share of tax.

Q **But how are these allowances calculated? Surely everyone's circumstances are different?**

A That's right, but there are two good starting points for a negotiation. One comes from the AA *in* a leaflet called *Motoring Costs 1996.* It is an attempt to calculate the general costs of owning and running a car and it breaks *those costs down into pence* per mile. For the very reason you state, the AA emphasises that its figures are not a recommendation, although they are *frequently* accepted as a useful guide in negotiations. The *other guideline comes* from the Inland Revenue and *is known as the Fixed Profit* Car Scheme. It sets an allowance above which any reimbursement of mileage becomes taxable. You can get details from your tax office.

Q ***Do these calculations* take into account things like depreciation and the costs of buying an extended warranty?**

A *The AA figures are calculated* by combining two sets of figures: standing charges and running costs. The first includes depreciation, road tax, insurance and, of course, AA membership. The second includes fuel, tyres, servicing and so on and makes an *allowance for* warranty cover.

Q **Q. That sounds reasonable, so what are the AA's conclusions?**

A It depends how big your car's engine is, whether it's petrol or diesel and on how many *miles you do a year,* but taking an annual average of 10,000 *miles, the current* figures to the nearest penny for *petrol cars* are: up *to 1100cc,* 25p; 1101 - 1400cc, 32p; 1401 - 2000, 39p; 2001 - 3000cc, 64p; 3001 - 4500cc, 80p. The diesel rates are calculated on the new purchase price of the car. Again for an average 10,000 miles a year the rates are: cars costing up to £10,000, 29p; £10,001 - £15,000, 36p; over £15,000, 55p. For employers who pay flat *rates,* the Inland Revenue sets a tax-free allowance *of 38.5p for the first 4,0*[illegible] miles and 21p therafter.

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MG-mania takes over Indianapolis

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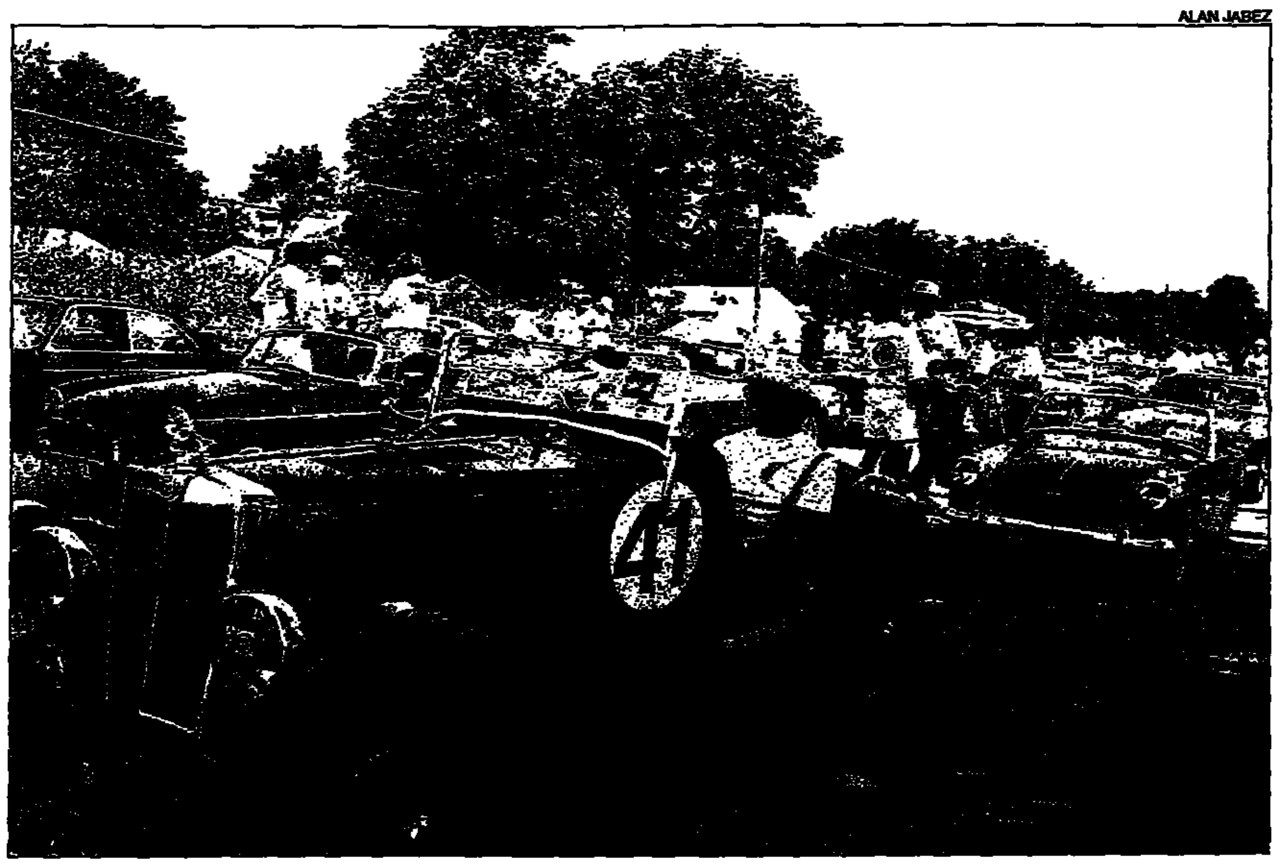
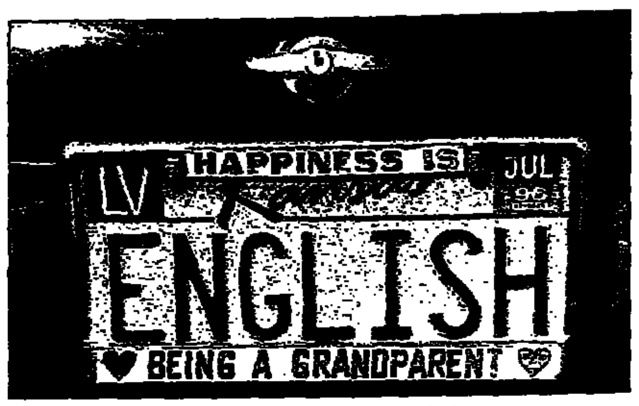


It is 15 years since MG exported to America but many fine examples remain, especially of the much-loved MGB

The good folk of Indianapolis must have wondered what had hit them. Though they are well used to the sight of fast cars and passionate car enthusiasts, their streets were taken over by the arrival of more than 1,200 MGs and their owners — the largest ever gathering of MGs in America.

They came from just about every state this month, with some people driving more than 2,000 miles. Others crossed the borders from Mexico and Canada, while a number of diehard enthusiasts from the UK flew across the Atlantic for the one-off occasion.

Gary Watson, president of the Houston MG Owners Club and producer of an award-winning documentary film on the history of MGs, was typically enthusiastic. "I have had this event listed in my diary since last year and have been counting down the days." He drove his 1977 Midget 1,200 miles to attend the event, and his only lament was that it lasted only for four days.



Fans hold many local shows and have their own museum

But Watson is just one of hundreds of Americans for whom their MG is almost a way of life. Another is John Twist, the owner of a restoration shop in Ada, Michigan. He has organised an MG party every year for the past 20 years and usually more than 400 enthusiasts show up. Meanwhile, in Walpole, New Hampshire, Gerry Goguen, a former trumpet player with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, has spent years building his own private MG museum which now attracts hundreds of visitors from across America every year.

For many of these enthusiasts, the Indianapolis meeting is almost a religious experience — even though it is 15 years since any MGs were exported to America.

During the golden age of the 1950s and 1960s, MG was at one time the most popular imported car in America and was driven by hundreds of thousands of college students as their daily transportation. But while the MGT series and the more modern MGA certainly proved to be useful moneyspinners, the company hit the jackpot when the MGB was launched. Remarkably, nearly 70 per cent of the 500,000 plus cars which were made went straight to the West Coast, and tens of thousands are still on the roads — many in original condition.

> MG was the most popular US car import

Although hardened enthusiasts display their cars at the countless shows that are held across America every year, the Indianapolis event was the first time that the owners of all the different MG models have come together for one huge celebration.

The event included the usual awards ceremonies for the best car of its type — but one car that did not feature was the new MGF. Even though it was launched in the UK last year and production has already passed the 8,000 mark, there are no plans to export it to America, either this year or at any time in the future. To many Americans, this is not just a huge disappointment but a naive marketing strategy that is akin to an ice-cream seller ignoring the seaside trade or a pub deciding to stop selling beer.

"There are certainly many people in America who would buy the car," claims Dick Knudson, a former university professor and founder of the highly respected New England MGT Register.

Last year, he organised a concerted letter-writing protest among American enthusiasts to get the car sold there but the bosses in Britain remained adamant the MGF will not cross the Atlantic. The effect of this, Knudson believes, is that a new generation of American sportscar enthusiasts will be lost forever to the more in-tune Japanese and American manufacturers.

Of course, one of the major problems the company would have if they did re-enter the world's biggest car market is who would actually sell the MGF. Since the pound flopped in the currency markets a few years ago, there are no longer any Rover cars (apart from Land Rover) sold in America and no established network of dealers.

But the company points to other reasons. "We are only geared for a maximum annual production of 20,000 cars," says Rover spokesman, Kevin Jones. He adds: "The US market is so huge that when we do go back, we want to go with a range of products and have all the necessary back-up to make sure that their return will be a major success." Jones denies that the avoidance of the American market has anything to do with the manufacture of BMW's Z3 in South Carolina, a car not too dissimilar to the MGF. "The decision was taken in the UK before the two companies joined together," he says. But these words are of little comfort to the hundreds of American enthusiasts who gathered in Indianapolis. Many would consider remortgaging their homes just to drive the new car, let alone actually own one.

Alas it seems they may have to be content with the consolation that the hot-weather testing of the car took place in Phoenix, Arizona. One enthusiast remarked this was like offering a child a handful of luxury toffees, but then covering its mouth with tape so it would never have a chance to enjoy the taste.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

MOT price hike

Fees for the MoT test go up on August 1. The maximum for cars and light vans rises from £27.38 to £28.66 and for solo motorcycles from £11.52 to £11.90. The increases take account of inflation and also the cost to testing stations of buying gas analyser equipment needed to monitor emissions from vehicles fitted with a catalyst, according to the Department of Transport.

The department sets maximum fees but testing stations are free to charge less if they wish. "The MoT test continues to offer motorists good value for money. It represents a thorough once-a-year check that their vehicle is in a safe and environmentally acceptable condition," says Steven Norris, Road Safety Minister.

French open

Green Cards are no longer necessary for AA insurance customers travelling in Europe. This follows confirmation from the French Tourist office that British motorists will no longer be required to produce cards. Green cards have not been a legal requirement in EU countries for some time and British policies meet the legal minimum requirement in EU countries. However reports of British drivers being stopped in France had deterred the AA from dispensing with the cards. The French reassurance means they will no longer be necessary.

Miles per gallop

A cavalcade celebrating 100 years of the British motor car has been organised by the Brooklands Society as part of Ascot Charity Race Day at the Berkshire track next Friday. It will feature a range of vehicles stretching from an 1897 Daimler to a new Aston Martin DB7 Volante. Rare machines such as a Jowett, a Crossley and a Squire will also appear. Proceeds will be devoted to the King George's Fund for Sailors, The Missions to Seamen and the Royal Life Saving Society. Tickets: 01344 22211.